



# *Kolkata Newscast*

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# Editorial

Dear friends,

The Institute has launched the triennium of preparation for the 150th of the Foundation of the FMA Institute (1872-2022) and the arrival of the First Missionaries to India (1922 -2022). On August 5, from Mornese (Italy), the birthplace of the Institute of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians (commonly known as Salesian Sisters) Mother General Yvonne Reungoat fma officially inaugurated triennium of preparation for the 150th anniversary of the foundation of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians (1872-2022). It was a day of remembrance and of the future, of gratitude and of fidelity, projecting the FMA Institute forward with hope.

In India, the FMA has launched a three-year preparation on 22 November with its Theme: “With Mary through the Course of the Century (1922-2022) and beyond...” The aim of these three years celebration is the spiritual renewal of each and every FMA and to renew the certainty that Mary walks with us, supports and accompanies, protects and encircles us.

“Mary walks in this house” were the last words of Don Bosco at his last encounter with the FMA at Nizza Monferrato in 1885. “I want to say that the Virgin Mary is truly here, here right in your midst! The Virgin Mother walks in this House and covers it with Her Mantle”. (Biographical Memoirs, vol. XVII, p. 513) Mary is constantly present amongst us. Her tender motherly care is tangibly felt in our boardings, playgrounds and educational institutions. “Trust in Mary Help of Christians, and you’ll see what miracles are”(Don Bosco). Trust in Mary Help of Christians is a guarantee that no one will ever be unheard or forsaken.

As we prepare ourselves for the 150th anniversary of the foundation of the Institute and the Centenary of the Arrival of our Pioneer Missionaries, let us picturize the giant redwood trees of California: They only grow in groves. Moreover, each tree’s roots extend and grasp the roots of the surrounding trees, forming a strong, interconnecting network that serves to nourish and sustain all of them equally. Their interlocking roots invisible. Though as a pontifical Institute we do not know each other personally yet we are interconnected with each other in Christ by the richness of sanctity, educational passion and missionary creativity that enshrines in the Institute.

Sr. Celine Alexander fma

## Feast of the Immaculate Conception



The feast of the Immaculate Conception, is the foundation day of the Mission of our Father Don Bosco and it is a day dear to all of us. On this day we commemorate Mary's purity and her 'yes' to the plan of God in bringing forth His only begotten Son Jesus. The day began with a note of thanksgiving to God Almighty for the gift of our Blessed Mother. The feast was well prepared by the Novena practices which were symbolically depicted with a lily for each

member of the community. The Morning Prayer was meaningful and well animated by our Aspirants. The predominant virtues of Mary especially purity, innocence, obedience, and generosity were highlighted for us to reflect, imitate and live. During the Holy Eucharist, the celebrant Fr. Vivien Andrew SJ stressed on the life of Mary our Mother and how she lived under the gaze of God and chosen to be the Mother of our Saviour. He also exhorted that we who are religious and all those who are aspiring to become, should take Mary as our model and guide so that we may live as she lived in doing God's work. To make this day special and to show our love towards our Blessed Mother the holy rosary was enacted devoutly and prayed at the grotto.

The beautiful day concluded with a wonderful programme put up by the Aspirants. They presented in groups different Apparitions of Mary viz., Our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of Lourdes, Our Lady of Velankanni and Our Lady of Bandel. All the four apparitions of our Lady brought home deeper love and devotion to her.

## Confirmation cum Parish Feast

Confirmation cum Parish Feast was held at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Proggaloy, Barasat, on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2020. It was indeed a great event for all of us at Auxilium Aspirantate, as we had one of our aspirants Rachita Nayak received the Sacrament of Confirmation together with other six participants from the parish. A group of aspirants along with Sr. Angela Kerketta and Sr. Nirmala Tigga had gone for the celebration. The Confirmation candidates had an intensive preparation for three days. Archbishop Most. Rev. Thomas D'Souza's Pastoral visit added much splendor to the celebration and feast.



The well prepared and animated Holy Eucharist began at 8.00 a.m. The Archbishop was escorted with the dancers from the main gate. There were four children to receive their first Holy Communion along with the six Confirmation candidates. The meaningful celebration of the Eucharist concluded by 10.30 a.m. after which snacks was given to all; followed by the cultural programme in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes, the Patroness

of the Parish Church. The Aspirants staged a beautiful play on the apparition of our Lady of Lourdes to Bernadette Soubirous. Archbishop appreciated them all for their creativity and originality. His Grace encouraged everyone especially those Confirmed to be courageous to live their Spirit filled life in the families and in the society.

## Feast of Don Bosco Celebrated with Oratorians

On 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020 the Aspirantate community along with the oratorians celebrated the feast of Don Bosco. The celebration began with a short prayer by Sr. Leelamma the animator, followed by a dance drama based on Don Bosco's love for the youth and a dance presenting the festive oratory of Don Bosco by the Aspirants. The oratorians were also involved in celebrating the feast and they came well prepared with their events. They gave the message of honesty through a short skit followed by solo dances by Suparna Malik and Ankita Mondol. The audience were stunned by their performance. At last the Aspirants gave the message of belonging to the family of Don Bosco through an action song.

The celebration continued with the sports day for the oratorians held on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2020. They eagerly waited for this day and were very excited. They enjoyed playing different games viz. 200m race, potato race, biscuit race, fishing the bottle etc. Mothers of the Oratorians too were extremely happy for being part of the sports day and actively participated in the games such as obstacle race, queen walk and breaking the pot. Above—all there



were lots of cheers from sisters and aspirants for all the participants.

Sr. Leelamma the animator thanked parents, Grandparents and Children for their active participation in all the activities held in the oratory. She encouraged them to be regular for the coming year. The winners were awarded with trophies and gifts. The oratory of Bamunmura is opened to all. Hence, some of the Grandparents from the neighbourhood and mothers attend Sunday oratory regularly and happily. Grandparents who are regular were gifted with attractive gifts. The sports day was indeed blessed with the unassuming presence of our two friends and members of Salesian Family, Miss Pratima Naskar and Miss Purnima Naskar. The community profusely thanked them for their gracious presence and generous gifts offered towards the programme.

## **Intercongregational Formees' Gathering**

**F**ormees' annual gathering was held at Auxilium Aspirantate Bamunmura on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019. It was a wonderful day for all the formees from Barasat deanery to come together and get to know each other. There were 208 formees and 28 formators representing 12 religious congregations viz. Bethany, Missionaries of Charity, Daughters of the Cross, Minor Seminary, Apostolic Carmelite, SJ pre-novitiate, Queen of the Missions, Daughters of St. Ann, Providence sisters, Helpers, Sisters of Charity and FMA.

The day began with solemn Eucharistic celebration presided by Fr. Gilbert Choondal SDB from Don Bosco Nitika who enlightened us in his homily about the importance of living and assimilating the Scripture. After the Mass Fr. Gilbert spoke on the "Word of God in Religious Life". He said that every religious and all those who are aspiring



to be religious should make the Word of God the centre of their life in order to be Christ like. This was followed by group discussion wherein the formees recapitulated several points on how to live the Word of God in a concrete manner. All the sixteen groups were fully active for discussion as well

as during the general assembly. Post lunch we had a lively cultural programme prepared by each group. The stage was set on fire by their performances and indeed it was really praiseworthy. Loud applause from the audience encouraged the group perform at their best. Everyone willingly participated in games conducted in groups. The winners were awarded with lovely prizes.

## Workshop on Affective Maturity

A surprise programme on “Affective Maturity” was organized for the forty five formees of the three formation houses of Barasat - R.N.D.M Pre-Postulants, Arunoday Brothers and Auxilium Postulants and Aspirants. It was held from 27<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at Auxilium Aspirantate Bamunmura under the guidance of Fr. Sajeev P.V. SJ, Jesuit Novice Master of Dyanashram.

The session commenced at 9.a.m and concluded with the Holy Eucharist at 5.p.m. In his general introduction Fr. Sajeev helped the formees understand the topic with a few questions to reflected upon. How does the society look at affective maturity? What are the misconceptions? How taboo comes up? What is an individual’s



view about it? The sessions were carried out with group dynamism.

The main topics included were “What is Primary Identity? What is Psychosexuality? What is Pheromone and why it is important for animals? Homosexuality, Homophobia, Pedophilia (child sexual abuse) focusing on its three

factors- survivor , victim and the perpetrator. Topics such as sexual harassment, sexual sadism, child pornography, child prostitution were also explained. The last sessions were on process of healing and recovery and healthy integration of sexual feelings. He also spoke one experimental example done by scientists about “Taboo” which was an experiment of “Five Monkeys”. He said, “Sometimes it is good to create taboo in order to prevent but it is also needed to be broken”.

On concluding day, the formes presented the learning outcomes such as dancing, singing and enacting. The performance of each group was exceptionally thought provoking and educative. All the formees were grateful for such an opportunity given to them.

## Aspirants' Sports day

Aspirants' Sport day was held at Auxilium Aspirantate, Bamunmura on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020 in honor of the feast of Blessed Eusebia Palamino the patroness of our house. The day commenced with a well animated Community Morning Prayer and the Hoy Eucharist presided over by Fr. Francis SJ.

The afternoon was set for sports for the Aspirants. The Auxi Asp. Sports was commenced with the March past by three groups with innovative costumes. Sr. Leelamma the Animator and Sr. Philomena were the Chief Guests of the day. Variety of games animated by the sisters coloured the day and it was concluded with the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Sr. Leelamma and Sr. Philomena distributed prizes for the winners, Sr. Leelamma appreciated the three groups for their enthusiastic and active participation. To top it



all in the evening there was a short entertainment programme in honour of Blessed Eusebia, presented by the groups depicting the entire life of Sr.Eusebia.

## Provincial Visit cum Christmas Celebration

The visit of our dear Mother Provincial Sr. Rose Ezarath on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at Auxilium Aspirantate brought blessings and graces from above. We were earnestly waiting for her coming, in fact every sound of the horn created an outburst of joy in our hearts. She arrived at 3:30 p.m. accompanied by our Superior Sr. Leelamma. An impressive welcome was given to her with traditional tikka, garland and melodious welcome song. She was escorted to the chapel for a meaningful prayer service depicting the Fiat of Mary as our own fiat and above all to thank



God for the very gift and presence of our Mother Provincial in our community. The four days of visitation was an enriching experience for one and all, as she patiently listened and strengthened all of us in our vocational journey. We were enthused by her encouraging talks, conference and the personal encounter.





On 20<sup>th</sup> December Nursery kids of our school greeted Mother Provincial for Christmas with their beautiful angelic action songs and tableau on nativity. On Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December was a memorable day for all our Oratorians along with our friends and benefactors as they came together to celebrate Christmas and greet the Provincial. Sr. Rose our Provincial thanked and encouraged everyone for

this beautiful way of coming and being together, where children, young people and elders too were present.

In the evening we had a short felicitation program to express our love and gratitude to our dear Mother Provincial for her love and concern. Amidst the melodious singing and dancing we staged the Nativity scene of our Lord to greet her for Christmas.

The following day a thanksgiving prayer service and Holy Eucharist were celebrated in gratitude for the person of Sr. Rose Ezarath. It was indeed a fruitful and memorable visit and celebration of Christmas 2019.

## *Auxilium Bandel*

### **Parents' Day 2019**

On 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of November 2019, Auxilium Convent School Bandel celebrated its Annual Parents' Day. The occasion was graced with the presence of eminent personalities along with the presence of the parents of the students. The management, teaching staff, supportive staff and students heartily welcomed all the invited guests and parents. On both the days, the programme began with welcoming of the chief guest which was followed by tradition of lighting of the lamp. On 21<sup>st</sup> Mrs.



Anindita Banerjee, Executive of the Academy of Technology honoured us by being our chief guest and on 22<sup>nd</sup> Smt. Ishita Mukherjee, Director of Ushneek Theatre group graced the occasion as the chief guest. We also had amongst us esteemed guests of honour who spent their valuable time attending our grand event.

On the first day, the welcome dance was performed by the

fifth grade which was followed by the enthusiastic performances of the toddlers of classes Nursery and Kindergarten. The students of fourth standard imparted a strong message on how we should respect our parents through their short skit. The children of class II danced on a rhythmic note which was followed by energetic action song of class I. On the sesquicentennial anniversary of FMA presence in the World,



the students of class three depicted the life of our Co-foundress St. Maria Domenica Mazzarello and her contributions towards the betterment of young girls in an artistic way. The students of class five alarmed us about the rowing devastation of environment through their dance. Rev. Sr. Principal, Sr. Rejina Joseph read out the annual report of the last three years which was followed by another song dedicated to parents by the children of classes III and IV. Then, our

hon'ble chief guest encouraged the young minds to work hard and achieve their goals and also cautioned the parents to keep a check on the usage of social media by their wards. The story of Rani of Jhansi depicted by the middle school in the form of a dance drama was tagged the best item of the day. The students of the tenth standard concluded the program with their melody and the national anthem. The second day also began with welcoming of our honourable chief guest by the Girl Guide troop of our school. The girls of class VIII welcomed everyone with their zestful dance. Then the girls of the sixth grade showed every one of the ancient Indian art forms- Kalaripayattu. Then the achievers of the academic session 2018-19 were awarded with their much deserving trophies. Bipasha Ray of class X got the award for the being the school topper. She has scored a whopping 98% in ICSE examination. Samarpita Chanda got the prize from class XII for being the school topper who got a jaw dropping 99% in the ISC examination. Debarati Lahiri from class X got the Best Auxilian reward for her outstanding performance in every aspect. Then class seven celebrated the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation- Mahatma Gandhi through their dance drama. Class IX celebrated the sesquicentennial anniversary of our Co- Foundress, St. Maria Domenica Mazzarello. Class XI showed how human begins have destroyed the environment and hence it falls upon them to restore it once again. Our hon'ble chief guest enlightened us with her precious words. The parents were then shown a dramatized version of the famous 'The Young King' by Oscar Wilde. The day ended with the dashing performance of the twelfth standard where they upheld national integration through their melodies. Lastly, the vote of thanks was read out thanking each and everyone who helped us to pull off the two days journey and then the show was wrapped up with the national anthem. We bow down before the Almighty who blessed us with successful celebration. May His name be always glorified by our good deeds.

## Enrolment of Past Pupils

On 25<sup>th</sup> of November 2019, Auxilium Convent School Bandel held the Past Pupils' Enrolment ceremony for the Class 12 batch of 2019-20. The ceremony was conducted by the President of the Association, Miss Kamal Jahan Hussain and the Secretary. It was graced by Rev. Sr. Superior and Sr. Principal.

The ceremony started with a prayer service where the students of class XII prayed to the Almighty and offered candles, grass, flowers and rocks as different symbols. It was followed by a prayer dance by a class XI student. After this, the entire batch was asked to close their eyes and Miss Kamal took the students through the memory lane, by narrating the 14 years of their school life in a story-like form. The ceremony was concluded by a motivating speech of our dear Sr. Superior and Sr. Principal, who welcomed the new past pupils and wished them for their future endeavours. It was followed by a lively dance from one of the senior past pupils and the ceremony was concluded by the distribution of the Past Pupil identity cards.

This ceremony was truly special to all the class XII students as they were about to venture into a new world. It highlighted how in all these years they had been guided by all the sisters and teachers, and the fact that they should remember their Alma mater wherever they are. They were motivated to be active past pupils and serve the poor and the needy however they could.



## Arrival of Missionaries in India

The arrival of the FMA Pioneers to India was commemorated on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2019 with a short prayer service cum Holy Rosary by the community of Auxilium Bandel. At 6.30 pm the whole community had gathered around the statue of Mary Help of Christians where the pictures and names of the first pioneers were displayed; Sr. Maria Angeleri, Sr. Teresa Merlo, Sr. Consiglia Torricone, Sr. Teresa Balestra, Sr. Laugia Appiano and Sr. Catherine Marnetto. At the beginning of



the prayer service, boarders enacted the scene of sending off the missionaries at the time of Don Bosco and Mother Mazzarello with their inspiring recommendations and how the sisters were moved and enthused to set off to the mission lands. During the prayer moment we recalled the history of our Institute and the words of St. Mary Domenica Mazzarello. Sr. Xalxo Joslin and the boarders animated the prayer service with suitable hymns and commentary. It was very lively and enriching. It helped us to revive and relive the spirit of our Institute.

## Feast of Blessed Laura Vicuna

“Selfless Devotion ” – she said, a beautiful flower in the Salesian Garden.

- Laura Vicuna.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020, Auxilium School Bandel, class XI-B commemorated the feast of Blessed Laura Vicuna. The programme began with short prayer service, dedicated to Bl. Laura Vicuna. Two hymns had been sung accompanying the prayers. It was followed by the life sketch of Blessed Laura Vicuna, highlighting all the ups and downs she faced in her life. Next was a beautiful rhythmic dance performance, serene and peaceful, dedicated to Laura, bringing out her virtues. The short programme ended with a group song.



The primary section honoured Laura Vicuna anchored by the students of IV, in a grand manner. Through their skit presentation they brought out Laura’s virtue of purity, hard work, charity and goodness. Their lively dances, beautiful song with captions kept the audience in festive mood till the end of the day. All were invited to

spend the day in the company of Blessed Laura Vicuna.

In the evening the boarders paid homage to Blessed Laura by their creative performances of dance, skit and song. We can say that all of them were inspired by her style of life and resolved to be like her.

## Boarders’ Farewell

On 8<sup>th</sup> of February 2020, during goodnight the Auxilium Bandel Community gave Farewell to six Class XII boarders. It started with a short speech and giving of brooch and greeting cards. This was followed by a dance drama depicting their life in the boarding. Boarding students of other classes gifted them with a framed picture of Our Lady of Bandel as they sang the farewell



song. After that each Class XII boarder shared their boarding life and thanked the community with their heartfelt words. They sang songs and presented an audio speaker as their gift. The community gifted a Holy Bible each to six of them. They were very happy and grateful for such a gift for the first time in their lives. Lastly Sr. Rosy Veliyan the animator of the community appreciated their contribution to the boarding as most sincere students and wished them good luck for their Board examination and for a bright future.



## Christmas Celebration

**A**uxilium Convent School, Bandel celebrated Christmas on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019 with great fervour and enthusiasm. It was the last working day of the year 2019 and the excitement level was at its highest. On 19<sup>th</sup> December, all the four houses; Red, Yellow, Blue and Green entered into a competition of Crib making. Needless to say, each one of them was unique with great messages of love and peace.



The celebration began at 9.30 am. It was held at the School Portico. The primary section had put up a fabulous programme, with their Carol singing, song, dance and musical skit. Once it was over the Middle school had the Carol Singing Competition. All the four houses sang melodiously. It mesmerised the audience. It was followed by the fun-act of Santa Claus amidst the angels' dance and Santa Claus Speech. Sr. Rosy Veliyan, the animator delivered the Christmas message followed by the encouraging message of Sr. Rejina Joseph, the principal. She announced the winners of the competition. In Carol Singing, Blue House secured the first position and Red was the Runners – up. In Crib Making, Yellow House received the first position and Green House became second. The programme came to a close with a surprise dance event as the students danced to the tune of Christmas.



At the end there was a get-together where the Administrative faculty and the teaching and non teaching staff exchanged warm greetings. The day ended with all smiles and cheers, with the hope and prayer that the festive season and the New Year will be a time of joy and peace for Auxilium Bandel family.



### A Day Out for the Non Teaching Staff



On 25<sup>th</sup> January 2020 a picnic was arranged for the non teaching staff of Auxilium Bandel. They were accompanied by Sr. Rosy Veliyan, Sr. Jancy Pulickyathottil, and Sr. Joslin Xalxo. At first they went to visit Auxilium Conven School, Barasat and Auxilium Aspirantate. There they enjoyed with the sisters and candidates who sang melodious song for them. After the lunch they proceeded towards the Eco Park where they saw the Seven Wonders of the World and the beauty of the musical fountain. They were really relaxed to the full and returned home around 7.30 pm. It was really a beautiful and enjoyable day.



## Rajhat Oratory celebrates Christmas

On 15<sup>th</sup> December 2019 the oratorians of Rajhat were blessed by the presence of Sr. Rosy Veliyan, the animator and Sr. Jancy Pulickyathottil, the bursar on the occasion of Christmas Celebration. Around 3.30 pm at the village Chapel courtyard 41 oratory children greeted the sisters Happy Christmas and Happy New Year. At first they sang a welcome song for Sr. Rosy as she went to visit them for the first time. Then they continued with their dance, action song, and Christmas tableau. After their programme Sr. Rosy too conveyed blessings of Christmas to them and to their family members. She told them to study well and wished them bright future. Finally the sisters gave them Christmas gifts also the five regular children were rewarded. They were very happy and promised to be more regular for the coming year oratory.



## Feast of St. John Bosco

On 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020, in the evening we the boarders and sisters celebrated the feast of St. John Bosco. We had the vigil service together with the sisters where we remembered Don Bosco, his devotion to Mother Mary and his gigantic work among the young people like us. We were inspired and loved to follow him. After the dinner we put up short and lively programme - a skit which presented the tips of Don Bosco, a poem on his life and a song in three languages Bengali, English and Hindi. In her good night message Sr. Rosy Veliyan recommended us to follow the tips of Don Bosco to achieve a bright future. Next day on 31st January in the evening we joined celebration at Don Bosco Seminary, Bandel. There too we presented a dance. These two days of animation and celebration really helped us pay a fitting and loving honour to our father and friend St. John Bosco. We love you, Don Bosco, Long live Don Bosco!



## The Unity Camp 2019

On 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019, Auxilium Convent School Bandel, witnessed its fantabulous return to its old traditional norms. The unity camp for Guides was declared open with a majestic Flag Break ceremony. It seemed as though, the entire universe came to standstill whilst the BSG Flag was unfurled. Our camp chief Ms. Suparna Adhya was honored by Sr. Superior. Sr. Rosy Veliyan, followed by the sub-camp chief Ms. Dolly, Ms. Monica and Ms. Agnes respectively. Our camp chief introduced the 15<sup>th</sup> new recruitment to the World Wide Guide Movement.



This rejuvenated the young guides and they went on with enthusiastic heart and wobbly legs as if to conquer the world. They started off with building improvised shelter under the guidance of the volunteers. This was followed by some educational sessions on whistle signals, history of guiding and uniform. These session would later help them

overcome any danger that they would encounter in their lives.

With weariness evident in their eyes, the girls carried on in their quest for knowledge. Luckily one of our honorable guide captain, Ms. Mary Ann lifted their spirits up. To their amazements the guides were taken to the school hall to enjoy the Friendship Game. Having enjoyed every single activity, the girls then lined up to have their lunch. Being satisfied with their growling stomachs, they returned to their educational session on flags educational session on flags, knots and lashing. Upon gaining some knowledge about their movement, the girls had now learnt not to be scared of adventures.

For better comprehensions of things practical knowledge is always important, so the girls then lived up in order to play and learn and enjoy various adventure games like tree climbing, brick walk, blind walk and commando crawl. After enjoying some snacks, they again sat down for session on First Aid and Menstruations. The Menstruations session was carried out by our company Leader to spread awareness among the young guides.

The Patrol members were asked to leave in order to prepare for the camp fire while PLS and APLS and the volunteers stayed back for the COH meeting. After having dinner we prepared and left for camp fire performances. The camp fire blew away the mind of judges and the audience alike. The intermingling of various colours with the camp fire burning in the background called for a good night sleep. This wouldn't have been possible without the support of all Guide Captains and Sisters. All in all the day one of the Unity Camp Was a Grand success under the bountiful blessings of the Almighty.



The next day began with the BP'S six exercise which keeps us healthy early in the morning followed by the All Faith Prayer which taught us the meaning of equality and brotherhood among each other. After a calm and harmonious prayer service according to the general rules and regulations, the Flag Break ceremony was conducted. Soon the energetic minds enjoyed their breakfast and started preparing for inspection where they marked on cleanliness, decoration, gadget, uniform and drill. A wide game was conducted to test what they have learnt last day during their sessions. The guides also took the initiatives to collect clothes and to reach them to the poor children of Adores convent.

Last session of the Unity Camp 2019 was conducted by our company leader, Ayantika Kundu, where she explained the importance of peace in every body's life. Friendship gets stronger when we connect with people. Scouting and Guiding is all about global networking. We had the idea about Messengers of Peace; the guides danced on the idea song where they had grown their ideas played the networking games in order to make network and connection strong. The session was concluded with a happy note as the guides promised to be a better citizen and became the Messenger of Peace. The Unity Camp ended with the flag down and distribution of certificates which marked the beginning of a new promising journey in the aeons of guides and the youth of tomorrow promising to carry this movement ahead.



*Auxilium Barasat*

**Children's Day 2019**



Most of the students eagerly wait for the mid of November as the most exciting event "Children's Day" is on 14<sup>th</sup> November. Similarly for us Auxilians at Barasat, is also a very special day. Together with excitement and vibrancy, it is a compact day filled with fun and frolic.

In the morning all the students came to school as usual but things were a little different, instead of uniform the students were dressed in exotic colour dresses, smiling faces with no text books in their bags. There was an unusual happiness amongst everyone. All the students were later taken to the auditorium for the surprises in store for them. Keeping with the tradition, the day began with the lighting of the lamp and invoking blessings from the Almighty. Students were unaware about the entire programme and were thrilled about the whole show. Teachers presented mesmerising performances and students were dumbstruck as they watched them. Every Sister and Teacher set the stage on blaze with their brilliance. To add more to the exciting event, Teachers showed us the glimpse of a student's childhood as he grows from toddler to High school. Students were pulsating with excitement as they saw Sr. Clara our Principal joining the teachers in the programme. The Talk Theatre "A Catty Affair" and drama "Roger chikitsa" were also worth mentioning for the creative and energetic performance of Teachers. The scintillating dance performance by Teachers also made the students gleeful and wonderstruck.

After all the events were over, the students danced on a few melodious Bollywood numbers and obviously any enjoyment remains incomplete without feasting. Students enjoyed a lot of delicious and mouth-watering items. Probably at the end of the day students sought blessings and thanked their teachers for making their day special. They returned home with sweets gifted from school and loving memories to cherish. The special moment will always remain in the hearts of all the students, considering ourselves lucky to be a part of the children's day celebration.



### Community Day Celebration



Auxilium convent Barasat celebrated its community day on 09 November 2019 with the theme 'communion in synodal style'. There was a lot of hustle

and bustle all around. One could feel the joy of everyone. This was the long awaited

moment, with prayers offered for each member for a month. We began our festivity with well animated evening prayer by Sr. Shirley and Sr. Alma. All were led to the hall with lighted candles and we offered the candles around the well decorated statue of Mother Mary. After supper the boarders and house girls put up a short cultural programme comprised of song, skit and dance. They also presented to Sr. superior cards and gifts. The following day began with a well animated morning prayer by Sr. Clara Saminathan. Around 10.30 a.m. all gathered in the chapel to celebrate



the Holy Eucharist. The boarders led the assembly to enter into our celebration with an entrance dance. The dance spoke of the grandeur, the glory and the magnificence of the Lord. The mass was animated by the boarders with melodious singing, suitable introduction and prayers of the faithful for the occasion. During the homily Rev. Fr. Raja invited all to thank the Lord for the gift of each other and be grateful to Him. He also recalled the many young saints who were with Don Bosco and reached the pinnacle of sanctity and invited each one to strive for holiness by helping each other and doing little deeds of kindness thus making our community living meaningful. Happy to be in the company of each other the feast continued with a delicious meal. Everyone was happy to converse with one or the other while sharing the meal. The climax of the day was the games in which all took part. We concluded the day in front of the Blessed Sacrament with a grateful heart.

## Guest Lecture & Campus Interview

Guest lecturers have become an important part of our educational system. They expose students to real world experience. On 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019, Mr. Pradip Barman and Mr. S.K Sabir Ali, Sr. Captains La Sunila, came to DB tech. Auxilium Barsat for campus interview. Before interview we requested them to motivate the students with their words of experience. After self-introduction, he spoke about his struggle in making his career, as there was no electricity in the village, no telephone, no modern transportation facility etc. After familiarising with the students, he explained his own journey. He said, “there is no end for learning. Every single day gives us new hope to do something different. First learn from your parents and grandparents, then teachers and



also from the seniors in the industry, those who are actually showing you the way to success in life. In industry you will face various kinds of situations but the most important part is that you have to know how to handle any situation. Never behave rudely to your seniors. You can learn many things from them and when faced with problems they might help you out.”

The students asked several questions regarding scope of work, growth opportunity and necessary training for career growth. Mr. Sabir Ali also recommended the students, to love their job, to be passionate about the work and also to feel proud about what they do. Later they interviewed the students. Though they were nervous at the start but after the interview session they were more confident. They were very satisfied with the students and even their answers were quite appropriate. The staff thanked Mr. Sabir and Mr. Pradip for spending their valuable time with the students and for the encouragement given to them. They said they are highly obliged to see that the students have hunger to do something in their life. They wished the students the very best for their better career.

### **Talent Hunt and Gratitude Day at DB Tech.**

Various activities help us in grooming our personality and help to explore our hidden talents to set our direction for future. November 8, 2019 being the gratitude day of our dear Sr. Superior, on this occasion we arranged for talent hunt competition. It was a great opportunity to say thanks to Sr. Superior for her love and care, and for her generosity, and loyalty which motivate us.

Students did their cultural and fashion show programme very well. They learnt many things from this programme especially to work as a team, have patience and captaincy. It was quiet difficult for Sr. Superior to choose the winner as everyone was good in their own way. So she declared all the participants as winners. She motivated us saying that showing gratitude is a good sign. Gratitude is strongly and consistently associated with greater happiness. It helps



people have more positive emotions. She reminded us not to forget to show gratitude towards God, parents, teachers, sisters and others who make you reach your goal in life. Sr. Sherley thanked Sr. Superior for her valuable time spent with the students. She also thanked Miss Paramita Dutta for her dedicated service to Auxilium Barasat DB Tech. for the past two years and

for bringing up the centre well. In appreciation Sr. Superior gave a token of gratitude in the name of the community as a token of love.

## Reunion Of Auxilium DB Tech.

Reunion is an occasion where two or more people come together again after a period of time. The alumni of Auxilium DBTech. returned to their second home on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2019 to spend some time together. All the ex-students who are working in Kolkata were invited to participate in the alumni meet. Though many of them are working out of state or out of India, we were very pleased have sixty two students on this occasion. Those who were unable to come sent good wishes through messages. It was such a pleasing moment when all of them met their batch mates and were hugging each other with joy and nostalgia. Fr. Raja Vanathu, Superior Sr. Stella P, Sr. Leelamma P., Mr. Kunal Shaw, Mr. Sudipto Malakar and Mr. Koushik Roy were our chief guests. The programme started off at 11.00 am with a heart-warming introduction by Miss Paramita Dutta. After the prayer song and lighting of the lamp Sr. Sherley Kalapurayil welcomed the chief guests and students and thanked everyone for their precious presence. The present batch of D. B. Tech students staged a show to express their love for their seniors. All appreciated the efforts taken to conduct reunion in such a big way. The chief guests also enriched the students with their encouraging words. Some of the past pupils shared their success stories and echoed their gratitude to D.B.Tech staff and Sisters for the training, placement and support which they received. The event came to a close around 2.00 pm after which they were given snacks and gifts as a token of remembrance.

After the programme, a small session was conducted by state officers to influence all the students for their great future. It was really an awesome experience for all to be together and the memories of the past still linger on in the hearts of all students.



### *Auxilium Dum Dum*

## Don Bosco Honoured

On 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020, Auxilium Convent School Dum Dum celebrated the feast of Don Bosco, the patron of the Red House. The program started with the lighting of the lamp accompanied by a spiritual song as a background sung by the talented singers of Class VIII. After lighting of the lamp Sr. Superior, Sr. Teresa Adam, Sr. Principal Sr.

Esther Rani and Sr. Vice principal, Sr. Anima Minj were welcomed with bouquet of flowers. It was followed by a beautiful dance presented by Middle School, and a melodious song merged with a poem by Red House members. The students beautifully portrayed the life of St. John Bosco through a dance drama. It depicted how Don Bosco loved and believed in the young people and how he brought hope to young minds. The program was concluded by the speech of Sister Principal. She said that Don Bosco was so dedicated towards the young people that he sacrificed everything for them. She also emphasized on how he saw good in every young person and that there never was a person who was as thoughtful, dedicated and loving as our great Patron Don Bosco.



## Sports Day with Oratorians

Games are an integral part in the life of not only a child but of all humans. Games give children a chance to practice what they are learning.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020 Class VIII students of Auxilium Convent School Dum Dum organized sports day for Oratorians and the Evening School children. The children arrived at 10a.m. It was a delightful sight to witness all the children dressed in bright attire taking part in the sports. The program took a kick-start by a speech from the middle school captain inviting the children to this auspicious event of the evening school sports. To begin with, a song and a dance were presented by class VIII students. The sports events consisted of memory game for the senior girls, running race for the senior boys, sit and draw for the juniors, balance a book and pick and run for the middle group, one legged race for the senior boys,



balloon race for the senior girls and straw and ball race for the senior girls. This phenomenal event was concluded by the prize distribution ceremony, a quiz on St. John Bosco and an inspiring speech by Sister Principal. It was a great occasion for the Past Pupils too, who celebrated the feast of Don Bosco with the children. They gave them a lunch packet each. The day came to an end with joy on the faces of all the children.

## Yellow House Celebrates Laura Vicuna

Yellow is the color of energy, purity and superiority. On 22<sup>nd</sup> January Auxilium Convent School Dum Dum celebrated the feast of Blessed Laura Vicuna, patron of yellow house. Her life was filled with purity, sacrifice, prayer and a filial love for Jesus and Mary. We the Yellow house members try to follow her principle, "Death rather than Sin". In order to honour this exemplary role model, we specially venerate her on this day. Sisters were felicitated with bouquets of flowers. The program started by seeking God's choicest blessings on each and every member our Auxilium family. The high school members performed a dance –drama based on the extraordinary life of a Eucharistic flower commonly known as Laura Vicuna. A melodious song in regard of Laura Vicuna was followed by a self-composed poem recited by middle school members that inspired us. Sister Superior was called upon stage to enlighten everyone with her golden words. She congratulated children for their wonderful performance, and enlightened us saying she is a model for each one of us. For she suffered and gave her life for the conversion of her mother. At the end the yellow house members wished happy feast to all.



### *Auxilium Gobra*

## Community Outing

The community of Auxilium Gobra had a trip to Kalyani on 16 November 2019. It was a memorable day for each one of us. We set out around 8.30 a.m with much eagerness and joy and reached Auxilium convent Kalyani around 10.30 a.m. Around



11.30 am we moved to one of the park called Lake Park. On reaching the destination a few games like magic cap, housie etc. were conducted by Sr. Sadhana Majumdar. Sr.Teresa Karackal the animator of the community distributed prizes to the winners after the games. And around 1.30 pm we returned to Auxilium Convent for lunch. We also visited the parish church. The journey was really thrilling; all of us had a unique and pleasant experience which will not be erased from our hearts.

### Gratitude Day Celebration

It was a magnificent day at Auxilium Gobra, when we celebrated the gratitude day on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019 with the theme "Building Synodal Community in the style of Mornese". It was a long awaited day, with one month's spiritual preparation. The celebration began with vigil service on 13<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30 p.m. Sr.Teresa Karackal, the animator placed a lighted candle on the altar which symbolized Christ as the centre of the community followed by lighting of the candles by every sister.

The day dawned to praise and thank the Lord for our community with a meaningful morning prayer highlighting each one's quality and thanking God for their talents which they contribute to the community. The gratitude day and children's day programme of the school began at 8.30 a.m. with a warm welcome extended to all the sisters by the students. They thanked the sisters through their dance, drama and action song. The teachers presented a wonderful dance for the children followed by the sisters' action song in order to add colour to the programme. The celebration concluded



with distribution of small gifts as token of love to all the students. Catholic students and their parents were invited to partake in the Holy Eucharistic celebration at 11.00am. The Holy Mass was solemnized by Rev. Fr. John Puthiyedathuchalil, the parish priest of

Auxilium Parish, Gobra. In his homily, he spoke about the ten lepers who were cured from the dreaded skin disease. He exhorted everyone to have the attitude of the man who came back to give thanks. After the Eucharistic celebration snack



packs were distributed to the students and parents. The community had lunch with Fr. John and our workers. The celebration came to a close at 6.30 p.m. with taize prayer expressing our praise and thanks to the Lord for the beautiful community where we share our love and joy.

## Inter-School Competition

It was a joyful day for our thirty three kids of Auxilium Convent School, Gobra who on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 went to Kids Care School, 58 Tiljala Road, Kolkata-46 along with two sisters and three teachers for Skills & Thrills Inter-school meet. They participated in Drawing, Poem Recitation, Fancy Dress, Group Dance and Solo dance competitions. The program started at 10 a.m. with the recitation of poem competition. They were very excited but when they went on stage to perform their



items, some of them felt nervous since for the first time they were facing a large crowd. Many of them were lucky to get rewarded and win prizes. Sr. Superior, Sr. Teresa Karackal distributed the certificates and prizes, and participation certificates. The students and teachers thanked Sr. Superior for giving the kids the golden opportunity to participate in the inter-school competitions. It was a wonderful experience for the kids to excel in their talents and also get confidence on stage performance.

## Feast of Bl. Laura Vicuna

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> January, the children of Auxilium Convent School, Gobra were overjoyed to celebrate the feast of Blessed Laura Vicuna. The students of



our school and the Spoken English students gathered in the hall at 8.30 a.m. for the prayer service followed by presentation of the life sketch of Bl. Laura Vicuna. Sr. Margaret Barla explained about the life of Laura Vicuna to the students in brief. Those were happy moments to see all the children watching the video eagerly in perfect silence. Everyone was enriched by the celebration of the day by which they learned to imitate some qualities of Bl. Laura Vicuna.

### **Feast of Don Bosco**

The little children of Auxilium Convent School, Gobra celebrated the feast of St. John Bosco, our Father and Founder, on 30<sup>th</sup> January together with the Spoken English students. The program began at 9.00 a.m. in the school hall with a short prayer service followed by a life sketch of Don Bosco displayed on the screen. The students of Nursery and KG staged an action song on Don Bosco. Class I students presented the maxims and a song in honour of Don Bosco. Spoken English students enacted some of the incidents from the life of Don Bosco such as meeting with rowdy boys like Michael Magone, Francis Bessuco, Barthomew Garelli and Louis Lasagna. At the end of the program, Sr.Sadhana Majumdar gave them the message exhorting them to imitate great saints and great people in their life, and in a very special way to follow the example of Don Bosco to care for the poor, sick and the needy. The conclusion of this auspicious day was crowned with the final hymn to Don Bosco and distribution of sweets and a picture of Don Bosco to all.



### *Auxilium Park Circus*

### **Official Inauguration of the Triennial Centenary Celebration ( 2019 - 2022)**

With great joy and thankfulness Auxilium Park Circus inaugurated the triennial preparation for the celebration of our presence in our mother land, on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019. The grand celebration began with a meaningful morning prayer. The sisters came in procession to the altar carrying the names of the six pioneers.

As they walked in Sr. Ekka Sumitra highlighted the significance of the day. We humbly placed on record the untiring sacrifices of the pioneers; their community was the portal of divine wisdom and knowledge where thousands of young people benefitted.



The sisters participated in the Holy Eucharist at the Church of Christ the King. During the introduction Sr. Lourdu Prema Francis expressed in words the adventurous journey of our six valiant missionaries. 97 years have swiftly glided and through out these years we have experienced God's indomitable love crowned with divine splendour always ending in victory. The faithful were invited to join the sisters to render thanks to God for the gift of our six pioneer missionaries who courageously ventured into an unknown

mission land viz. our nation to proclaim God's message of Love. They were also requested to pray for the sisters to be the prophets and witnesses of Gospel joy.

We involved the educating community to celebrate this event. The teachers, the workers, and the tiny tots were led to the chapel. Sr Makil Elizabeth spoke to them of the importance of this celebration. A short prayer was said and the children resonated "We thank you Lord for our sisters". The celebration reached its peak during the adoration in the evening. The sisters enacted the scene of the departure of the sisters. The symbolic gesture of giving the statue of Mary Help of Christians represented the mandate given by Mother Catherine Daghero. Yes it was indeed an opportune moment for personal renewal, and an appropriate time for introspection of our past, present and plan for the future to keep alive the original freshness of our vocation. Our unending praise and thanks were noteworthy for the growth of Salesian charism in India. We prayed to the Lord that our community too may be a place where life springs, is nurtured and matured bringing meaning to the daily happenings of life.

## *Auxilium Kalyani*

### **Inauguration of the Centenary Celebration**

It was all willed by our Blessed Mother, that one day we, her daughters will join together to give her all honour and praise with our whole heart and mind. And so today is the day set aside to thank God for this great gift of our call to serve Him in this our motherland. To celebrate this unique gift to us the community of

Auxilium Kalyani gathered in the presence of the Lord to inaugurate the centenary celebration of the arrival of our first Missionaries to India. To mark this event we began the preparation on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019 with a prayer service.

As a gesture of gratitude to God, and to our Blessed Mother each sister held a ribbon and the name of a sister connecting to each of the pioneer sister. The community representing 6 sisters offered at the altar a burning lamp symbolizing the six pioneer missionaries who brought the FMA Charism to India. All the sisters of the community thanked God for the gift of their vocation and the innumerable blessings received through the intervention Mary our Mother. The sisters reflected on their own vocations and prayed ardently for many more fervent missionary vocations to the Institute. The prayer moment was concluded with a hymn of praise to honor Mary our Mother.



## Christmas Joy

The Christmas celebration of Auxilium Kalyani was held on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 in which parents were invited. On 19<sup>th</sup> December, the celebration was for the students of Nursery and KG. They performed their colourful Christmas items and carol songs. Ms. Anita, one of the teachers of the school then gave heart touching Christmas message emphasizing on the true meaning of Christmas. She also spoke about St. Nicholas who used to dress up as Santa and give gifts to children to make them happy. Then the students of classes IV and V sang carols to mark the birth of Christ. The following day, on 20<sup>th</sup> December Christmas celebration was for the students of class I to class V. The day began by welcoming our Sisters followed by the welcome to the parents. The programme began with the performance of class I followed by classes II and III.



Miss Anita delivered the Christmas message by quoting Mother Teresa – “It’s Christmas every time you let God love others through you. Yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand”. She explained the meaning of celebrating the Birth of Baby Jesus.

The students of classes IV and V enacted mesmerizingly the Christmas

Story. The concluding item was the carol singing. The day came to an end with the vote of thanks to our Sisters, teachers, Non –teaching staffs, parents and our dear children. Christmas celebration was indeed a great success because of everyone’s support and cooperation.

## *Mazzarello Ranchi*

### **Baptized and Sent**

On 10<sup>th</sup> November 2019 for the first time Mazzarello School organized Catechetical Day. All Catholic teachers and students took keen interest to make this day a grand success. Most of the Catholic and Christian parents participated in it and appreciated the efforts made by the Management to help their children to grow in faith. The theme of the Catechetical Day was “Baptized and Sent”. The main celebrant of the Holy Eucharist and Chief Guest for the programme was Most Rev. Bishop Theodore Mascharenas, the Auxiliary Bishop of Ranchi Archdiocese. Holy Eucharist was celebrated at 11.30 a.m. Bishop in his sermon stressed that family is the first place which gives faith and nurtures the faith of their children. Therefore, parents have to play an important role to help children grow strong in their Christian faith. We are baptized to proclaim Christ to the world.

Soon after the Mass a short program was staged by the students of our school, which depicted the life of Jesus. It lasted nearly 2 hours. At the end Mrs. Seema Khalkho thanked the Bishop and parents for giving their valuable time to be with us. The Bishop too thanked all the Sisters, Teachers and parents for organizing such beautiful program and recommended them to continue the good works that the Institution is doing in this locality. All were given snacks and everyone went home convinced that they were baptized and sent to witness and proclaim Jesus.



## Inauguration of Centenary Celebration (1922-2022)

Mazzarello convent, Ranchi initiated its journey towards the Centenary Year 1922 on the eve of 22<sup>nd</sup> November. During the goodnight the Sisters listened attentively to the letter of our dear Sr. Provincial, Sr. Rose Ezarath, read by the Animator, Sr. Lily, in which she highlights the aim of the three year celebration: the spiritual renewal of each and every FMA.



The Community was also equally eager to listen to the letter of Sr. Margaret Amalanathen, President of the FMA PCI in which she vividly explains how the first six missionaries came to India in 1922. As she launches the preparation for the centenary year to mark the arrival of the First Missionaries, with the entire three years programme, the theme and suggested activities interprovincial and local level spelled out so clearly, was very exciting news to all of us. A crucial question she puts in her letter is, "What can we find out that will suggest better ways for us to engage with the people and especially the young of India today?"

At the dawn of 22<sup>nd</sup> November during meditation we reflected on the Institute's Anthem "O Qual Sorte" "The Joy of FMA" and on the presentation by Sr. Marinella Castagno, the then Superior General, as she presented the "The Diamond Years of the FMA in India - Volume I". She says that it is a story of the sacrifices of many Sisters who gave their lives for the poorer section of youth, it is a story of pastoral charity, that urged so many FMA to live in a total way "Da Mihi Animas Cetera Tolle", it is a story of trust in Our Lady, who even now continues to direct our steps, in fidelity to the Spirit of Mornese. Mother Marinella continues, when we look back and admire the many Sisters who unassumingly built up the Institute and brought it to what it is today, it renews our own responsibility. Each one of us is called to give the best of her-self, in every way we can, with the joyous simplicity of one who has experienced the incredible presence of the Lord in her life. The story also offers us immense avenues to surge ahead and contribute our might for the extension of His Kingdom.

In evening the community spent some precious moments in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament praising and thanking the Lord for the gift of our six Pioneer Missionaries who brought the FMA Charism to India. The prayer service prepared and sent to the communities by the mission sector of the province was utilized and Sr. Salomi Bhuinya animated it creatively and prayerfully.

After dinner during goodnight three short video clippings were shown to all the

boarders and Sisters; the good night message of Sr. Lucy Rose Ozhukayil, the Visiting General Councilor, the message of the President of FMA Provincial Conference of India (PCI), Sr. Margaret Amalanathan and video on vocation promotion prepared by the Social Communication Sector of our Province. The children were very delighted to watch them. Sr. Lily, animator told the boarders to pray and ponder over the videos as they retire to bed. On the following day a photograph of the “Future FMA Missionaries” was taken. To our great surprise at least 30 of them opted to become Sisters and future missionaries. So now, we really have a reason to rejoice and a task to fulfill till all of them reach their goal through our Salesian accompaniment.



## Community that Generates Life

After a month long spiritual preparations the Mazzarello community, Ranchi celebrated the community day, on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2019. The theme chosen for this great event was “community that Generates life” with the symbol of a tree. The practices for the four weeks were taken from the document “FMA towards GC24”. The Vigil service was animated by Sr. Aruna Kispotta with some senior boarders, through which they brought out the beautiful aspects of love, care, concern and forgiveness of the community living. On the following day during the Morning Prayer each Sister carried a plant and placed it on the altar as a symbol of their being together and self giving service for the mission among the young.



Holy Eucharist was presided over by Fr. Ashok Kujur S.D.B.

Rector of Don Bosco, Bariatu. In his sermon he highlighted the three important characteristics to be lived in the community. They are: Togetherness, Forgiveness and Fruitfulness. After the Mass the boarders thanked the Animator Sr. Lily D’souza and the Sisters with their beautiful melodious song. They also congratulated Fr. Ashok on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of his profession. Then all moved to the refectory for a delicious breakfast with the Novitiate community. The day was well spent in praise and gratitude towards the Almighty God for the gift of each and everyone in the community. In the evening there was a colorful stage programme

put up by the boarders to express their love and gratitude towards the community.

On the following day the community went for an outing to spend some beautiful moments together to Patratu Dam. We experienced the mighty hand of our loving God all through our celebration who brought us together as a community to serve Him and above all to love Him.

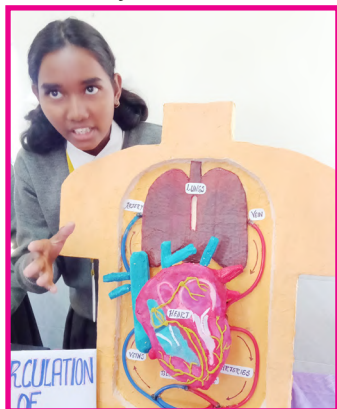
## School Exhibition

“Genius is when an idea and the execution of that idea are simultaneous”

**-Albert Einstein**

Mazzarello School, Ranchi organized its Annual Exhibition on Friday November 22<sup>nd</sup> 2019. The school campus witnessed great fun and frolic as the students and teachers put up subject specific stalls, displaying projects and models created by the students. It was a platform provided to the students to tap their hidden talent and innovatively give shape to theoretical learning.

A Special assembly was conducted on the occasion. The ceremonial lighting of the lamp was done by the chief guest Sr. Lucy Retired Principal of Saint Charles, Superior Sr. Lily D’ Souza and Principal Sr. Aruna Kispotta. Sr. Lily welcomed the chief guest by presenting her a shawl. Sr. Lucy in hr address elaborated the essence and value of education and appealed the students to be fearless so as to make difference. The chief Guest inaugurated the exhibition by cutting the ribbon and the parents and guests dispersed to visit the exhibition. Escorted by the Principal and Superior the chief guest visited each stall and praised and appreciated the efforts of the students. The visitors were welcomed to the exhibition which was divided into six different clubs. The intriguing Science experiments, scholarly discussion of the Indus Valley Civilization, practical application of Maths concepts, and the alluring world of language were all interestingly explained which generally seem complicated but were dealt with in the most non – complex manner. Their vast knowledge about space and Astronomy was spellbinding. The spectators were charmed by the delightful ways of the Mazzarelians who demonstrated experiments and highlighted innovative techniques of making learning fun. The exhibition received huge appreciation from all. The Zeal and enthusiasm showcased by the students left the visitors amazed.





## Sacred Heart Novitiate

### Spirit of Mornese in Indian Soil



22<sup>nd</sup> Nov 2019 - a very significant day for every Salesian sister of India as we celebrated 97<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Salesian presence in India and entered into the first year of our preparation for its centenary. The novices animated the prayer moments very meaningfully making us feel the fervor of the pioneering sisters. It was a time for us to raise a hymn of thanks to God for the prodigies He worked in and through our Institute especially in India and to Mary Help of Christians for her maternal guidance and

protection in giving life to the charism of Sts. John Bosco and Mary Mazzarello in our Indian soil. It is an amazing fact that within the span of a century, the small seeds sown by six Daughters of Mary Help of Christians have grown into a huge tree bearing plenty of fruits with 1424 sisters, working in 205 communities comprising 3 countries, with 7 Provinces and embracing to be signs and expressions of God's love to the young especially the poorest.

The theme selected for this occasion is "With Mary through the Course of the Century (1922-2022) and beyond." The placing of the placard with the names of the 6 pioneers (Sr. Teresa Balestra, Sr. Catherine Marnetto, Sr. Maria Angeleri, Sr. Louise Appiano, Sr. Consiglia Tarricone and Sr. Teresa Merlo) helped all of us to admire their undaunted courage. With Mary at their side they were ready to go anywhere and undertake any mission.

When they reached Tanjore on 24<sup>th</sup> they were filled with even more joy, even if they had to bear up with suffering due to immense heat, the bare necessities in the house and the new language and culture. But nothing disappointed or frightened the sisters. They continued with daring missionary spirit to give life to Mornesian spirit. Thus they transformed the first house in India into the house of the love of God.

For the novices it was like a kaleidoscope as they placed lighted lamps giving rise to each of the provinces where the Charism shines brightly. Along with the novices and the sisters too felt that the Charism is in now our hands and it is our time to make the Charism grow with a creative fidelity.



## Christmas Gathering and Prize Distribution

22<sup>nd</sup> of December was a day that brought the Oratorians from different centers to the premises of Mazzarello Convent for the Christmas Gathering. At 2.30 pm the program began and everyone gave their best to recreate the Christmas atmosphere. There were around 76 children in total. Sr. Rosalia Tirkey in her message reminded the children that their hearts are the best crib for Jesus to be born. After the program the annual prizes were distributed to the children. Everyone went home with gifts and sweets but the best gift they received was the Love of the Babe of Bethlehem in their hearts.



## Christmas at Brick Field

Mazzarello and the novitiate communities on 26<sup>th</sup> December decided to share their joy of Christmas with the inmates of the brick field. The novices presented the living crib and sang the carols for them. We also shared the joy by dancing to the beat of the carols. Sr. Rosalia Tirkey in her message assured them that Jesus came for all and to save all. Sr. Anima Kujur said a short prayer for them. They were given some snacks in honour of the celebration. This was day that really gave us the feeling of fulfilment.



*Auxilium Kurtumgarh***Feast of St. John Bosco**

On 31<sup>st</sup> January the Auxilium convent Kurtumgarh celebrated the feast of St. John Bosco. The celebration commenced with a solemn Mass at 7.00 pm. The main celebrant was Rev Fr. Jugal Kishore Digal. We had invited the young people for the celebration. Six young people came for Mass and they showed their love and devotion to Don Bosco through their songs. During the homily Fr. Jugal mentioned about the life of St. John Bosco. He was a man full of zeal and enthusiasm and



he had great faith in Our Lady. His character was shown forth from his childhood that he would be doing much good for the poor young people. 'Do everything for the glory of God and always live in His presence', he used to say. His motto was "Give me souls and take away the rest". He also said, a consecrated person should always

think that he/she is consecrated all the time, in all the place and for all the people. Then only we can live and keep ourselves away from sin.

After the Mass the young people wished all the Sisters with the festal song and bouquet of flowers. Mother Provincial Sr. Rose Ezarath and Vice Provincial Sr. Adampakallel Teresa encouraged the young to love Jesus and Our Lady like D.B. Play, jump, shout but do not commit sin. The Sisters distributed a picture of Don Bosco as well as a medal and cake to them. They were very happy to receive the gifts and thanked the sisters and went home.

*Oicuna Nivas Jumaikela***Parents Day Celebration**

**P**arents' day celebrated on January 11 2020 at Janta School Jumaikela. The Chief Guest was Mr. Rampukar, M.L.A of Pathalgoan and others Sr. Francisca Ekka, Santosh Babagi, Rev. Fr. James Jainewas and all the parents of our school children around 300 present for the celebration. The Chief Guest was welcomed by scouts & guides, with bouquet of flowers, gamcha and brooch. Lighting the lamp ceremony was followed invoking the presence of God on all our endeavours. The school report was presented by Miss. Manju Neelam Kindo. Then followed various events like dance, drama and pyramid. It was a wonderful show and all enjoyed the events. The chief guest was very happy and appreciated the work done by the sisters . He

was elated to see the clean environment keeping with the theme “ Swach Bharat”. He promised to grant our requests and provide us with a Hand pump and the school to be aided. He exhorted the parents to take care of the children’s education of both boys and girls and to be part of nation building.



## Feast Of Bl. Laura Vicuna

The feast of Bl. Laura Vicuna was celebrated on 22 January 2020 in Vicuna Nivas Jumaikela. The mass was solemnized with appropriate songs and music. The main celebrant of the Holy Eucharist was Rev. Fr. James Jainewas. In the evening the supper was together for both communities. The virtues of Bl. Laura was recalled and relived throughout the day in imitation of this young Saint.



## Republic Day

Republic Day was celebrated in Janta School Jumaikela on 26 January 2020 . The programme was short and sweet. The main guests this year were Rev. Sr. Mary Ekka, Rev. Sr. Cecilia Kollappally and all the community sisters. The speech was given Shilpa Panna, a student of Cl. X. A song was sung by the entire school. The Principal Rev. Sr.Cordula Kullu thanked everyone. Though it was a Sunday the student participated in good number. At the end sweets were distributed for everybody before they returned home.



## Visit of Sr. Rose Ezarath

The provincial visit of our dear Mother Provincial Sr. Rose Ezarath to Jumaikela commenced from 1<sup>st</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> February 2020. The community welcomed her with the lighted candle at the entrance and proceeded to the chapel for a short prayer service. Sr. Rose met all the sectors, specifically community sisters, boarding girls, school students and staff, health workers and Salesian community priests. During her meeting with the students she exhorted them to work hard and reach their goal without any distraction on the way. She narrated a beautiful story to bring home the message. At the end of her visit she reminded the sisters to be more vigilant especially when they are assisting the students and boards. She recommended them never to leave the children alone. Mother provincial had also had the joy of inaugurating the new scooty bought for the purpose of mission activities. The community sisters thanked her profusely for her loving and sisterly guidance. We pray to God to bless her work and keep her in good health.



## News in Capsule

Thursday November 14 2019 was unfolded by three big events: The children's day, the conclusion of the Bl. Maria Troncatti's 50<sup>th</sup> death anniversary and the surprised and causal visit of Rt. Rev. Bishop Patras Minj of Ambikapur Diocese. The solemn Holy Mass for the children of the school was celebrated in the Parish church with well prepared liturgical celebration. The children of the school went to the school after the Mass to take part in the Annual Sports Day which was inaugurated by the Bishop Patras of Ambikapur Diocese.



“Pray always; Prayer is the weapon that you must keep always at hand; it will defend you from all enemies and help you in all your needs”.

[St.Mary Mazzarello]

## The Feast of Christ the King

The feast of Christ the King was celebrated on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November. The parish of Ghuttiapara had organized a beautiful programme for the day to proclaim the Eucharistic King to the Locality. The Holy Mass was at 07.00 a.m. followed by bike procession as escorts to the King of Kings. The Blessed Sacrament was carried in a beautifully decorated tractor accompanied by several little girls dressed as angels and the flower girls



were showering the flower petals to the Blessed Sacrament. The procession ended with adoration, benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and the Solemn Holy Mass.

## Christmas Celebration with the Boarders

As it was a holiday in the school, Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019 was an opportune moment to keep Christmas celebration for the boarders. The children decorated their refectory beautifully with the crib and its background. The crib in the veranda and decoration on the ceiling gave a festive look and the children were excited and very happy. The short prayer service was conducted at 08.00 p.m. followed by Christmas Programme by children. The children presented the Gospel scene of the birth of Jesus. There was Christmas carol singing by each group with Christmas gift for each one of them. They were extremely happy. For the newly joined boarders it was a real surprise. They sang and danced beautifully.



## Christmas Tree Celebration

The sponsored children were invited to come to the convent after the Sunday Mass on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2019. The Christmas tree celebration began with a short prayer at 10.30a.m. and continued



with the singing of carols. They sang and greeted the animator and the sisters. Sr. Superior gave them the Christmas Message after which they were given each a packet of mixed sweets and biscuits and a warm shawl. They were accompanied by their parents and guardians who were given also some sweets. Then they took their children home safely, all happy and contented.



### **Building Resilience in children**

**O**n 5<sup>th</sup> January 2020, 55 FMAs of the province of Kolkata (INC) participated in one day seminar on building Resilience in children conducted by Dr. Fr. Saju Puthussery SDB a member of CWC Hooghly and Kolkata at Auxilium Bandel. The seminar was organized by the YAR Sector. The session began with the question 'who is a child?' Further he explained to us the terms Child Welfare Commission (CWC), District Child Right and Trafficking (DCRT), District Social Welfare Office (CPP), Social Investigation Report (SIR), District Child Protection Officer (DCPO), Child in need of care and protection (CNCP), and the different types of abuses children undergo. The causes of child abuse also were put forward through power point presentations and case study and how we can get help from different sources. Children need friendly people - he stressed on preventive system in our schools and boardings. He said that most of the problems are with the adults and not with the child. We need to select the right people to take care of this type of children. The participants were enlightened and enriched and took to heart the seminar for their effective mission. They expressed their gratitude to Sr. Provincial and YAR Sector for arranging this life generating seminar.





## Annual Retreat

On 28 December 2019, 53 Daughters of Mary Help of Christians started their six days of holidays with the Lord at Auxilium Convent Bandel. The HOST of the retreat was JESUS and His Minister Fr. Jose Kuttianimattathil SDB, the Rector of Kristujoyti College Bangalore, who led the group of Sisters to experience in depth the warmth and love of Jesus. Fr. Jose animated and presented his talks with power-point presentation, with excellent explanations of the Word of God that there was no room for distractions. The Word of God saturated their souls so much that they fell in love with Jesus and experienced his powerful company in their lives. They were reminded to allow Jesus to control them.



Personal Prayer was the main topic. He said “You are on your own to pray and experience God’s nearness and get in touch with yourself more in depth. The Holy Spirit is the Principal Director of the Retreat.”

The days began with the salutation of the Angel Gabriel to Mary and throughout the day with Faith Affirmation and praises to Jesus, led the

participants get immersed in the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. And the nights were concluded praying the Mysteries of the Holy Rosary, embracing the whole world and imploring the blessings of Mother Mary.

These were the Topics dealt in depth:- “God’s personal love for me” God loves us tenderly, beyond measure. “God’s Call” God calls us to Him each day. “Forgiveness, Trust” Forgive one another! Do not be anxious. “My response to Jesus in the light of His Passion and Death” Give oneself to Jesus as He gave Himself for us. “Sin, Repentance” Repent! Accept the pardon and peace God offers us. “New life, joy and inner strength” The Spirit lives in us, and guides us! Mary accompanies us. “Jesus is Risen, He goes ahead of us” Jesus is alive, and goes ahead of us. All these days they enjoyed staying at Home with their Beloved Lord. The grace filled days came to its conclusion, with a heart filled with gratitude towards the retreat preacher Fr. Jose Kuttianimattathil SDB, Sr. Rose Ezarath, the Provincial, Sr. Rosy Veliyan and her Community.

## Workshop for National Co-ordinators (PCI)

Sixteen FMA National Coordinators from seven Indian provinces had their first Commission Heads Workshop at Dum Dum, Kolkata from 22-24 February 2020 animated by Fr. C.M. Paul, SDB Campus Minister, Salesian College, Sonada. Sr. Clara Saminathan and Sr. Rosy Veliyan participated in it from INC province. 22<sup>nd</sup> February morning saw the National Coordinators at Kolkata Mary Ward Social Centre, Tangra for a learning exposure. They were accorded a grand welcome in a typical Bengali style; before the presentation of the whole complex dynamics of the Centre by the staff in the absence of the Director, Sr. Monica Suchiang IBVM. The group was then taken to various sectors of the Centre for further demonstration.

The official inauguration of the Workshop commenced at 2.30 pm with a brief prayer service during which Sr. Rose Ezarath, Provincial of INC lighted the lamp, which was followed by Fr. C.M. Paul, Sr. Little Flower Ambrose, Secretary FMA-PCI, Sr. Lydia Komuhra, National General Coordinator and Sr. Hilda Braganza, representing the National Coordinators.



Fr. C.M. Paul introduced the first session of the workshop on the importance of Template in report writing and the need to explore and execute it with efficiency. The participants were grouped into three categories to work out the template according to the requirements of each sector. It was presented in the assembly for observations, interventions and suggestions. The resource person aptly complemented it with explicit practical points to the satisfaction of everyone. The participants were further enlightened on various types of news writing such as executive summary, exhaustive

report and feature writing. Practice on feature writing and personal follow up did help the participants to create a significant impact in the readers.

Pointing on the crucial role photos play in the news, and the need to choose appropriate ones, Fr. C.M. Paul said, "Photos put in the news should reflect and speak for itself".



Other topics of relevance pertinent to the requirements of the role and mission of the members such as building "Public Relations", Google survey and Snapseed photo editing softwares were introduced and dealt with at length.

The maiden Workshop came to a grand conclusion with the resolve of the national coordinators to make the best use of the knowledge imparted and skills acquired.

A short thanksgiving moment held after the programme truly acknowledged the pivotal role played by Fr. C.M. Paul, SDB for the successful outcome of the Workshop. It also offered an occasion to thank Sr. Rose Ezarath, Provincial INC, Sr. Teresa Adampakallel Superior of Auxilium community Dum Dum and the Sisters of the host province for its fruitful end.

### **Training for Children Care Institutions - CCI**

Three days Training Programme on Centre for Excellence was organised for all the boarding in-charge sisters at Auxilium Convent Barasat from 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> February 2020 by Salesian Sisters India in partnership with Miracle Foundation.

The programme commenced with grand welcome ceremony by D.B.Tech students and boarders. Sr. Rose Ezarath, Provincial of INC welcomed the resource persons: Sr. Isabella Alphonse from INM, Sr. Sujatha



from INT & Miss Riney Rachel Staff member of Miracle Foundation and all the participants, and conveyed her best wishes for the training programme. There were 20 participants together with CMT's (Core Master Trainers) and MTs (Master Trainers) from INC, Sr. Mary P, Sr. Sherley and Sr. Anima Xalxo.



The participants took great interest in the programme and were enriched by this programme. They came to know the various topics and methods in guiding and taking care of the children like, Family based care, 12 Rights of the children, Resource mapping, Attachments etc. The three days programme was concluded with a note of thanks to Sr. Provincial for her encouraging presence and accompaniment all three days, and to the community of Auxilium Barasat for their generous service.

## NDF Annual Meet

The FMA National Development Forum Meet was held at Yercaud Chennai from 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> December 2019. Twenty six participants took part in this meeting from 7 Provinces. Sr. Alma Bilung, Sr. Mary P. and Sr. Sherley K.M participated from INC Kolkata. The theme of this meeting was "Emerging Challenges - FMA's Response"



The day commenced with the Morning Prayer at 6.30 am animated by Guwahati Province (ING). At 9.00 am the participants were welcomed with traditional kumkumtika and garland and were accompanied to the hall by special group from Alternative Media Center with Tamil traditional folk dance.

Rev. Fr. Joeseeph Xavier S.J consultant of NDF, Sr. Isabella

Alphonse the NDFC, Sr. Tamizharasi the Provincial Secretary of Chennai Province, Sr. Magdalene Vice Provincial of Mumbai Province and Sr. Mano the Superior of the community lit the lamp followed by prayer dance by Sr. Prema and Sr. Magdalene

from Chennai Province. Sr. Tamizhharasi officially welcomed all the participants from seven Provinces on behalf of the Provincial Sr. Nirmala Lazar and read out the presidential address. In her speech she highlighted that FMA NDF has journeyed 16 long years and have brought hope and smile to so many women, youth and children. She appreciated Sr. Isabella for her untiring effort in coordinating the FMA India and she thanked the SDC'S for their collaboration. She also thanked Fr. Joe Xavier for bringing credibility and visibility to FMA NDF India. Sr. Tamizhharasi released the Annual Report and first copy was presented to Fr. Joe and then to all the SDCs. The inaugural session came to an end with the photo session.

At 11.30 a.m. first session began where Sr. Isabella introduced Rev. Fr. Anthony Raj the Rector of Sacred Heart College, Tirupattur to the participants and Sr. Tamizharasi and Sr. Shermila felicitated him.

He introduced his session with the sentiments "You are women of faith". In his talk he highlighted that "who we are is more important than what we do" Then he spoke elaborately on two topics: The situation of women in India and What are the issues involved, followed by group activity where participants had to list out the women's issues in the present situation.

After the presentation of the group work he helped to priorities which could be responded by FMA, NDF India as per the charism. He gave some guidelines, how we can function in our ministry:

- Legal education/awareness
- Citizen forum
- Women forum
- Family counseling
- Education of girl child
- Accompanying girls after their school/collage





The second session was by Rev. Fr. Joe S.J. He helped us to discuss and analyze the major challenges and threats faced by FMA's. He then presented 4 objectives:

- Understand challenges
- Handling cases of abuses
- Sharing and learning from Annual Report
- FMA-NDF Plan-2020 for proceedings

Every group presented their procedures of solution after that Sr. Magdaline from Bombay Province presented the guidelines how she proceeded and was successful in handling critical case of abuse in their Province. The day ended with the Eucharistic celebration.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> Day all 7 Provinces presented their Annual Report. in the afternoon there was an open forum discussion for half an hour for clarifications/ queries and sharing by participants followed by Fr. Joe Xavier's session. He presented 3 points focusing on the Planning of Framework:

- Emerging Challenges
- Available Opportunities/Skills
- Changes we would like to see by which we are known.

He asked the delegates to find the most optimum way to merge these 3 points to get the best results.

Q.1. Suggest two programmatic directions that you would like to undertake in your province which would include most of social/technical/educational/non-formal sectors.

Q. Suggest two programmatic directions that you would like to undertake as FMA-NDF which would include most of provinces, if not all? If you could, add how we could make it happen.

The out come of the group discussion an be summarized in the following points; Employment & Employability, Human rights promotion and protection, Human Trafficking & Youth as nation builders etc.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Day commenced with a note of thanksgiving for the fruitful meeting of the 16<sup>th</sup> FMA – NDF Meet and for the 25 Silver Years of Religious Profession of our dear Sr. Isabella Alphonse. During the Holy Eucharist Sr. Isabella Alphonse carried a lighted candle to the altar with the meaningful commentary read by Sr. Igina Kharjana of Shillong Province.

Fr. Joseph Xavier took over the floor for the Evaluation (Dynamics and Outcomes) of the entire 3 days meet. In the concluding cremony, the community members, SDC's and Fr. Joe were invited to the dais. There was a short thanksgiving prayer by Sr. Shermila followed by vote of thanks. The programme ended with the exchange of Christmas gifts and wishes.

### **Training on Human Trafficking**

**O**n 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019, a training programme was organised on human trafficking for the women of Monsada by Sr. Alma Bilung, the Social Development Coordinator. About 170 women participated in it. Mrs. Shoma Chakraborty a very dynamic social activist was invited to be the resource person, who is directly working in this field since 12 years. The programme commenced with the solemn welcome to the resource person and the participants. Soon after that Sr. Alma introduced Mrs. Shoma to the participants. A pre- session discussion with the participants wherein she found that human trafficking is still a relatively unknown issue to the women of this area. So she began her session exploring its meaning and its impact in the society and country at large. She animated the session with audio-visuals which made a deep impact in the participants. After the session they had common interaction with her during which they came up with a lot of questions and clarifications which lasted at least for half an hour. At the end of the programme they requested sisters if they could arrange this programme even for their children and in local Govt. Schools as well. We could see on their faces the anxiety and fear about their children. The programme concluded with the distribution of snack packs to all the participants.



**‘Go Paperless, Go Green, Go Digital’**

A workshop was organised by Portronics India Ltd. in collaboration with the NGO ‘Sharp’ for the students of classes VI and VII encouraging students to go digital. The students were made aware of how much paper we use in our day-to-day lives which results in deforestation. This deforestation then creates an ecological imbalance. A way in which we can all save this destruction of environment is by Going Digital. To produce one ton of paper, approximately 17 trees are cut down. To make a single A-4 size sheet, about 10 litres of water is used. Moreover, when paper decomposes, one of the products formed in the process is methane, which is a greenhouse gas and leads to global warming.



Every year around 71.6 million tons of paper is wasted in the world. In India 40% of landfill waste and 33% of municipal waste is waste paper. On an average, a pine tree takes 7-8 years to grow, but as soon as it does, it is cut down for obtaining coloured paper, newspaper, etc. In this educative session, students were also taught how to save paper by showing them how recycling of paper and waste material can be done. They were also

informed about the substitutes to various paper products, like using a cloth napkin rather than paper napkins, using cloth bags and not paper bags, to go digital. The students were made to involve in activities like quizzes and the winners received a digital rough pad from Portronics. In the workshop, students were informed about the wastage of paper which results in environmental imbalance and encouraged them to ‘Go Paperless, Go Green, Go Digital’

**La Revedere**

On 14<sup>th</sup> of December 2019, H.C. Auxilium School vasant Vihar bid farewell to class XII. The theme of the programme was ‘La Revedere’ meaning ‘goodbye, until we meet again. Since the renovation of auditorium of Vasant Vihar is in progress the event was organised in the junior branch. The students of class XI anchored the occasion. It was so pleasing to see the class XII draped in colourful sarees.

The programme commenced with welcoming at the entrance by offering a rose each to everyone followed by welcome speech of Vice Head Girl, Anisha Basumatari. Sr. Celine Alexander, the principal of the school addressed the gathering and articulated about how the school has developed and nurtured the young minds and will continue to do so. She said “We too have hopes and dreams about you. Envisioning you as



Don Bosco envisaged/ dreamed. Gentle ladies with a strong sense of citizenship, social justice, principles and values that lead to serve others generously, committed to bettering public life, personal honesty and “allergy” to all types of corruption, sensitivity to the poor, to creation that has been given to us and persons who will become voice of the voiceless.”

After this heartfelt message, students of class XI - D presented the dance 'Freestyle Dhamaka' and danced on some of the most popular bollywood songs. Meher Chahal, Jennifer Titus, Lakshita Nand, Sherlin Syan and Pratha Jamwal astudents of class XII shared with us, some of her happy memories they had in HCA.

The student council then received the Auxil Awards for their tireless and diligent work that they had put in, to make all the competitions and the co-curricular events a huge success for the past two years. The energetic performance 'Punjabi Beats' which mesmerized all brought down curtain on the day's programme.



**Feast of Don Bosco**

On 30<sup>th</sup> of January, Bosco House celebrated the feast of their patron St. John Bosco. At the onset of the programme, Katyani Midha, captain of Bosco House welcomed everyone and gave a gist of the life of Don Bosco. During the prayer service

the students read out short passages from the Bible, which Don Bosco followed throughout his life. The members of Bosco House presented a prayer song, 'A Shining Flame' dedicated to the life of Don Bosco. A skit named 'Journey of Don Bosco's Life' based on the life of St. John Bosco in which the students beautifully portrayed Don Bosco's Life and how he overcame the toughest times.

Dance on 'Youth of Today' performed by the members of the Bosco House depicted the aspirations and life of the young people of today. Sr. Celine Alexander, the principal of the school greeted the gathering. She emphasized on how God raises great men and women according to the need of the era. Don Bosco was raised at the time of industrial revolution, child labour and starvation. In the same way in India, Mahatma Gandhi was raised when the country was under the siege of the British whose martyrdom we commemorate today. She urged the students to be promoters of peace, harmony and concord in the society.

### **Green Championship Award**

On 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020, ten selected students from fifteen schools of Delhi and NCR attended 'Green Championship' programme organized by 'Sharp NGO' in collaboration with 'Schneider Electric'. The venue for the event and competitions was Venkateshwar International School, Dwarka. The programme started with lightening of the lamp and Trishna Tanwar represented HCA to light the lamp along with delegated from France and Schneider Electric. The schools exhibited their models on the stage with the help of a Power Point presentation on the topic 'Waste to Utility' which can be practically implemented. The students of Venkateshwar International School also presented a Nukkad Natak portraying the importance of trees and dance drama depicting that there's nothing more than a mother's love on earth. H.C. Auxilium was awarded the Best School award for participation and campaign. Garima Joshi of class VII received the award for 'the Green Champion' of our School. Since our school taken keen interest in environmental protection we were awarded the 'best school' award.



### **Bharat Guides Pravesh ceremony**

On 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019, thirty four students of HCA, were initiated into third batch of Bharath Guides. The Company Leader Kanishka commenced the ceremony by commanding the Guides to stand in a Horse - Shoe formation. The Guides, then sang the prayer song 'Daya kar daan bhakti ka'. Guides' captains Ms. Namita and

Ms. Babita along with Sr. Maria the animator, hoisted the Bharat Scouts and Guides flag after which they took the pledge to fulfill their duties as Guides and honour the flag, sisters, teachers, parents and classmates by saluting them. Patrol leaders took the oath along with the members of their patrol. Sr. Maria and Sr. Celine Alexander, the principal of the school distributed badges and scarf respectively. Sr. Maria, in her address encouraged the students to carry out their responsibilities towards the nation with precision and loyalty.



## Feast of Laura Vicuna

Laura Vicuna, the patron of abused victims, once said, "I want to do all I can to make God known and loved." On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February, 2020, the members of Vicuna house commemorated their patron saint by celebrating the feast of Blessed Laura Vicuna.

Sejal Naugai, the Vicuna House Captain introduced the day's programme followed by lightening of the lamp to invoke God's blessings. Riddhi Madan gave a brief description on the life of Laura Vicuna. Students of class XI led the audience in prayer. The cultural programme was consisted of a melodious song in honour of Laura Vicuna, enactment of poem depicting the life her life and an exuberant dance performance. Sr. Maria, the animator addressed the gathering. She encouraged students to live in peace and harmony and help those in need as Laura did. Laura Vicuna, with her words, "Suffer silently and smile always.", has been an epitome of love and prominence and will continue to be so for the generations to come.



## Oh! Max Indoor Wonderland

Oh! Max Wonderland is one of the largest indoor theme parks in India. The students and staff of H.C. Auxilium School Vasant Vihar set out on a day's outing to this wonderland, one its kind entertainment facility on 28<sup>th</sup> November classes VI to VIII and 29<sup>th</sup> November classes IX to XI.

On reaching the destination we were welcomed with soft drinks and snacks. The students were divided to various groups for different activities. At the entrance Dinosaur park with functional dinosaurs took back to the ancient times of a world of dinosaurs. The dancers depicted the life of shah Jahan and Mumtaz Mahal and



their eternal love for each other as we visited the replica of Taj Mahal. Indoor Amazon forest is a place to explore the wonder of nature. In the Egyptian mummyland while visiting the horror tomb of King Tut, we got a fare idea about ancient Egyptian's elaborate set of funerary practices, rituals and magic spells. A guided

tour in the chocolate factory helped us to have live experience of how fresh and quality chocolates are produced, packed attractively and ready for marketing. It was a life time experience to go through mirror maze, discover the mysteries of sunken Titanic and lively circus performance. Adventure games of various kinds to test your courage and fitness gave us an adrenaline rush to complete challenging tasks. To top it all the students danced to their hearts content with the music of DJ. Oh! Max Wonder is a great place to spend quality time in the company of one another and keep the spirit of exploration, curiosity and wonder exalted.

## Farewell of Mrs. Usha Bhaskaran

On 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019 H.C. Auxilium Vasant Vihar bid adieu to Mrs Usha Bhaskaran who rendered thirty-four years of service to this prestigious institution. In honour of Mrs. Usha, HCA organised a programme for her sincere commitment and dedication that she exemplified in her service period. The much-awaited program began with the grand arrival of Mrs Usha accompanied by the Superior, Principal, and Vice Principal who were escorted by the NCC Cadets. She was welcomed by the School Vice- Captain, Ms. Anisha Basumathari and thereafter

she was invited to light the lamp to invoke the presence of the Lord Almighty.

The felicitation by the cabinet and representatives from each class was done to thank Mrs. Usha. The programme continued with graceful dance 'May the Lord Bless You' by class VII students. Thereafter, Sr. Celine Alexander, the Principal of the school delivered farewell message. She said, " It will not be flattery to say that Usha ma'am is a patient and loving educator who instilled in the students love for studies, honesty, sincerity and discipline. She never dictated rules but constantly tried to convince what is good and what is more right. Her outstanding qualities are patience, humility and simplicity".

The programme continued with beautiful folk dance, speech by school cabinet



expressing their gratitude and with self-composed poem recitation dedicated to ma'am. Mrs. Usha was invited to deliver her speech in which she in most humble manner expressed her eternal love for students and reverence for the institute she served for so long. She thanked the management, staff and students for the

cooperation and admiration she received from everyone in throughout her journey in the school.

Sr. Maria, the animator presented the grand memento to Mrs Usha as a kind gesture of gratitude on behalf of entire school and also appreciated her tireless efforts towards the institution.

## NCC Day 2020

¶Parade is their paradise; they have fire in their eyes and rage in their hearts.

Sacrifices are nothing to them, when they serve their purpose. Those three words made them, National Cadet Corps."

The NCC day is celebrated every year on the fourth Sunday of November. It was on this day that the first unit of NCC was raised in Delhi in the year 1947. To mark the 72<sup>nd</sup> NCC day, the NCC cadets of HCA organized a program for the same on 25<sup>th</sup> November.

The program began with the welcome speech by NCC cadet and then all the sisters were felicitated with bouquets to thank them for their graceful presence.



Soon after that, all heads turned back as the thundering voice of the commander, Adeline Dexter Daniel echoed in the premises. Following the command of the captain, the NCC cadets marched forward smartly in coordination upholding their motto unity and discipline. This was followed by a speech given by Adeline Dexter Daniel, leading commander of the troop and the prayer dance by the junior and senior cadets for thanking the Lord Almighty for making the NCC successful and blessing to reach to more heights in future. The program continued with various speeches on the importance of NCC, journey and achievements of HC Auxilium NCC so far. A demonstration by the NCC

cadets depicting the basics of the NCC training was also presented.

As the program came to an end, a mesmerizing, self-composed poem capturing the essence of NCC was recited by NCC cadet Insha Ali and finally the programme ended with the NCC song 'Hum sab Bhartiya hai' sung by entire school with full zeal and patriotism.

It was undoubtedly special day for HCA to see the NCC in glory. The program had a great impact on the students and encouraged them to join NCC in future.

### Constitution Day



Constitution Day (National Law Day), also known as Samvidhan Divas, is celebrated in India on 26 November every year to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution of India. On 26th November 2019, the members of Media Club commemorated the Constitutions Day at H.C. Auxilium school, Vasant Vihar. The assembly started with an introduction to

the Constitution of India by Ms. Eva Arya, the president of the Media Club. The Constitution is the supreme law of India which lays down the framework of political code, structure, procedure, etc of government institutions and sets out fundamental rights, directive principles, and the duty of citizens. The president also gave brief a description of the fundamental rights and duties of Indian citizens. The constitution, helps to promote spirit of patriotism and upholds the unity of India. The preamble of the Indian Constitution was read which explains the document's purpose and underlying philosophy. The national pledge was taken by all the students, teachers and sisters, which was followed by the national anthem.

## Twofold Events



On 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020, the captains of the student's council officially handed over their posts and responsibilities to the vice – captains. The ceremony commenced with a welcome speech delivered by the school vice head girl Anisha Basumatari. The senior members of the school cabinet, handed over their responsibilities of leading the school in a symbolic manner by handing over their flags to

the vice – captains. The junior captains then took the oath to fulfill all their duties with sincerity and to be responsible leaders of the school. The members of the senior cabinet then handed over lighted lamps to their junior captains as a symbol of their duties and responsibilities, and the junior captains presented them with a gift each as the token of gratitude, love and appreciation.

The second event took place on the same day was mini sports day. program began with the address of Vice Sports Leader Devanshi Rai, who spoke about the importance of in keeping oneself fit physically and mentally. ensuring not only physical but also our mental growth as individuals Sr. Maria then declared the sports day open.

The first event of the day was the march past competition, in which the School Cabinet, Members of



the Bharat Scouts and Guides, NCC cadets marched along with the four houses, Bosco, Mazzarello, Savio and Vicuna both juniors and seniors.

Following, were the games and races. The participants showed true sportsmanship and enthusiasm. The races were tunnel race, cardboard race, obstacle race, relay race etc. All these memorable events were followed by the tug of war between the four houses. Mazzarello House was declared the overall winner of the sports day. The program concluded with a vote of thanks given by the Vice Cultural Leader Afifa Tabrezi. Trophies and special awards were distributed on the next day. Shri. Thankvel, vice- principal of DTE school – New Delhi, distributed prizes to the winners.



On this occasion, Ms. Prachi Tokas, student of class XII was felicitated for her achievements in swimming. She has won numerous national and international accolades in swimming. She created several new records in the 65<sup>th</sup> National School Games held in New Delhi. She also received the ‘Golden Girl’ award. Prachi is bracing herself for several international feats.

## Visit to UNICEF Headquarters

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of December, 2019, five representatives of HCA s Vasant Vihar along with Mrs. Shanti visited the UNICEF headquarters located at Lodhi Road New Delhi. UNICEF which stand for United Nation Children fund is mandated by the UN general assembly to advocate for protection of children’s rights, to meet their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential. UNICEF became a permanent part of the United Nation system and established its headquarters in 1953 in India, particularly Delhi. It celebrated 70<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary, on the occasion of which the school was cordially invited.

On the alluring occasion for about 8-10 school visited and everyone was welcome whole heartedly. There was a display of the amazing creativity that children of various age groups possess, on “the wall of talent”.





Students were introduced to their guides who helped them discover various stalls and games depicting basic hygiene, sanitation practices including the medical and educational section which provided the statistics depicting the average size of brain, the average blood level in humans etc. The sole purpose of introducing everyone to games was to inculcate learning habits, as the students were able to grab more information and could relate it with the present society and environment. The Students' general knowledge had been tested through a quiz conducted by their staff members in which the school successfully held the 3<sup>rd</sup> position. At the end the students were given a beautiful jute bag containing goodies and a steel bottle. Although it was a sidesplitting and mirthful experience which helped everyone learn a lot. It was a life-time experience and extremely valuable and knowledgeable experience.

# *Media Corner*

## **Caption contest**



**Send Your Captions to (Not later than 30-04-2020)**  
**rosyveliyan@gmail.com OR celinealexv@gmail.com**

**Cultural Extravaganza 2020**

For five decades, Holy Child Auxilium School, R.K. Puram has been inspiring lifelong learning and transforming lives through education. The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is an important opportunity to look back on our history, celebrate our achievements and take a bold step into the next 50 years. Our heartfelt gratitude to the Almighty who has bestowed His blessings on our School.



On the occasion of completing its 50 golden years, it is very difficult to believe that what was once dreamt is being fulfilled now. The idea of putting the foundation of an educational Institution planted as a sapling is now all grown as a large tree.

So to kick start this golden era, Holy Child Auxilium School R.K.Puram organized a Cultural Extravaganza as the first of the many events to be held to celebrate this milestone. This event was held on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2020

The air was filled with festivity and excitement as the days unfolded and Parents and guests thronged the auditorium to witness this great celebration.

The Chief Guest for the 29<sup>th</sup> of January was Dr. Sabina Pillai, Associate Professor, Delhi University and Author and the Guest of Honour was Mrs. Annu Kalra, Author and Wellness Expert.

The Chief Guest for the 30<sup>th</sup> of January was Mr. D. K. Yadav, Deputy Director, National Crime Records Bureau, Govt. of India and the Guest of Honour was Dr. Dheeraj Bahl, Professor and Head Dept. of Paediatrics, RML Hospital.

The programme began with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp to invoke the Lord's Blessings. The Lamp was lit by the Chief Guest, Guest of Honour and the Manager, Sr. Maria and Principal Sr. Celine and Headmistress Sr. Leela.

'A flashback into the Past' was presented by Ms. Paula Fernandes, the Senior most teacher of the school.

A brief history of the school beginning in 1971 and the unforgettable experiences, The Sisters and teachers who stood the test of time and the growth of the institution from its humble beginning to the mighty and well known schools of the city, were



some of the highlights of the 'flashback'

The team of three valiant visionaries, Sr. Cleofe Fassa, Sr. Luigina Miorelli and Sr. Clara Martin who took the bold step in setting the foundation were remembered with gratitude and love.

Teachers who had been part of this journey and have now retired from their service were present at the function. Among these present was also the very first teacher of the school Mrs Samson who with teary eyes watched the entire programme. They were then felicitated by our Manager, Sr. Maria and Headmistress Sr. Leela.

The school captain then formally welcomed the Guests and Parents and also spoke about the joys of being an Auxilian and reaching this great milestone.

The programme began with the Religious Myraid of Dances wherein the students showcased the different religions through their dances and thanked the Lord for the graces bestowed on this school for the past 50 years.

The students of the Nursery Class presented an action song titled 'Together we are Family and what a beautiful Day'. The parents and guests were enthralled to see the little ones colourfully dressed and perform so happily on stage.

The cute little children of Kindergarten put up dances of 4 states (Goa, Gujarat, Uttrakhand and Punjab). They looked splendid in their ethnic attire and danced so rhythmically to Indian Folk tunes.

The Fusion of East and West was presented by the children of Class I. the children rocked the stage with their graceful and foot-tapping performance. The students of Class II enlightened the audience with the Menace that Mobiles have created through their humourous and lively presentation which had the parents roaring with laughter.

To commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of the great leader Mahatma Gandhi, the children of Class III presented a beautiful dance drama depicting the journey



of Mahatma Gandhi in the Freedom Struggle of India. Their presentation was full of “Josh”

The students of Class IV put up the dances of the world thus bringing out the fact that we are

‘One world’ and we should live in love and harmony and make this world a beautiful place to live in. The dances put up were African, Chinese, Indian and English. Their presentation was titled ‘VasudevaKutumbakam.

‘Fitness Flow’ a Yoga presentation was made by the students of Class II, III and V. They put up a splendid and mind blowing performance showing us all that Meditation is the need of the hour and is the sure shot solution to many problems, physical and mental.

The Magical 50 years was ushered in by the students of Class V through their performance titled ‘Happily Ever After’ Showcasing a few Fairy tales through dances sthe students brought out the Moral Values we learn from Fairy Tales thus believing in the Magic of Love. And this was exactly the what has borught us to the threshold of the Golden Jubilee.

The Chief Guests and Guests of Honour on both days applauded the efforts of the Students and teachers for the superb programme put up on this day.They also exhorted the parents to spend quality time with their children and not to compare them to their peers or siblings. They also said that the parents should pay a lot of attention to the diet of the little children by giving them a balanced diet and to help them refrain from junk food. The also said that each child is unique and has her own talent so they must be encouraged and guided to do their best always.

Mementos were then presented to the guests on behalf of the Management by our Manager Sr. Maria and Headmistress Sr. Leela.

The programme ended with the National Anthem.

It was indeed a meaningful, entertaining and superb programme. Kudos to Holy Child Auxilium School!



## Inauguration of Centenary Celebration

In order to mark the arrival of the First FMA Missionaries to India in 1922, the community of Bareilly inaugurated preparation for the centenary celebration on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2019 with a short prayer service. It commenced with a lovely hymn of thanks and an informative introduction of the Missionary journey made by our six Sisters in India. The hymn directed our mind to God in gratitude for those missionaries. It was followed by lighting of the lamp, appropriate scripture reading and a few intercessory prayers for the various needs of the world. The picture of the Missionary Sisters was garlanded by Superior, Sr. Teresina Mundackal to express our love and gratitude towards them. These Missionaries' ultimate zeal and strength was Jesus Himself. "Jesus was all in all" for them who brought Him in our mother land. As external sign of their source and strength of happiness a Crucifix, the Holy Bible, the lighted candle were offered by the Sisters with short commentaries.

Sr. Taramani Minj explained in details the significance and importance of the day. In order to remind ourselves about the journey of our Pioneers, the four Sisters and two girls acted out the missionary journey to India.

The ceremony was concluded with an inspiring message by Sr. Superior to be grateful to God for the gift of these missionaries who came to India and sowed the seed of Salsian charism. She invited them to be like them ready to take risk for love of Jesus.



## Inauguration of SCC

On 30<sup>th</sup> November first batch of SCC was inaugurated at Snehadhan Bareilly under the leadership of Sr. Taramani Minj. Rev. Fr. Harold D'Cunha, the Parish Priest of St. Alphonsus Cathedral, Bareilly, Fr. J. B. from Bishop's House, the Sisters of the community: Sr. Taramani Minj, Sr. Phulkeria Lakra, Sr. Julita Kujur and a Canosian Sister, few parishioners and senior girls from our boarding were present for the inaugural ceremony.

It commenced with the Bible procession and its enthronement by Sr. Taramani Minj. Mrs. Veronica Butterfield, one of the active members of our parish led everyone in sharing and reflecting the Word of God. A particular passage from the Bible was taken for the sharing and to be remembered in the entire month and thereafter followed an action plan. The main action plan was taken to pray for the sick and ailing, and visit the family of Mrs. Lawrence whose wife is very sick and in pain. The members of SCC decided to visit them and console them with their presence. The following Saturday was fixed to go for family visit. Thus SCC group was formed in our ward and surely it will bear abundant fruit.



### *Auxilium Snehalya*

#### **Inauguration in preparation for Centenary celebration**

On November 22, 2019 the opening ceremony of the preparation for the centenary celebration, of the arrival of the first missionaries in India began at Auxilium Snehalya with the good night of previous day. The community reflected together the difficulties and the problems encountered by the first six missionaries and the sacrifice made by them at their arrival in our mother land. The well animated Morning Prayer of the next day gave us ample opportunities to reflect and keep alive the theme “Give Thanks” through hymns and invocations. In the evening community gathered together with the children for the Prayer Moments which helped everyone to acknowledge and appreciate the past and it facilitated to have true love for the future.



## Catechetical Day Celebration and Exhibition 2019

The Students of Auxilium Convent School New Chumta had Catechism and Moral Science exhibition on 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2019, which was inaugurated by Rev. Fr. Telesphore Toppo the assistant parish priest of New Chumta parish. Fr. Toppo lighted the lamp and blessed the gathering by sprinkling holy water. All the students contributed to display and also the exhibition was viewed with much appreciation. At 10.15 am the students and staff gathered in the auditorium for the Catechetical day celebration. The celebration started with a prayer dance by class VII invoking God's blessings upon the gathering. All the Catechism students of different classes presented their programme creatively. The presentations consisted of Gospel presentation, dances, action songs etc. All were very enthusiastic while presenting the Gospel values. At the conclusion of the programme Sr. Elizabeth v., the animator congratulated them and encouraged them to grow in their faith and be the proclaimers of Christ through their lives. she also appreciated the catechism teachers who prepared the children meticulously.



## Inauguration of Centenary celebration

Auxilium Convent New Chumta had the inauguration ceremony for the three years preparation of the arrival of six missionaries in India at Tanjavur on 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2019. Before the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament a short introduction was given by Sr. Premika and then six boarders in sisters' habit entered the chapel with lighted candles symbolizing the light of Christ brought by our six pioneers. All the sisters and boarders thanked God for the great work of God initiated by them. It was a moment of awe and wonder for the magnificent works carried out by the Salesian sisters in seven provinces all over India.



## An Encounter with God

**E**ighty two Catholic students of Auxilium Convent School New Chumta made their two days spiritual retreat on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of November 2019 preached by Rev. Fr. Yakub Kindo. The retreat started at 9.00 am with a short inaugural ceremony when Sr. Superior Elizabeth Valliyil welcomed the preacher with a khada and Fr. Yakub lighted the lamp invoking God's presence upon the gathering. First day the talk was based on the love of God and its manifestation through parents in the life of every individual. During the second half of the day they were helped to prepare themselves to meet the Lord in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In the evening they also experienced special graces and blessings as they approached the sacrament and also the Taize prayer made a unique impact in their lives when they could surrender themselves to the Crucified Christ. On the second day they were made to reflect on the importance of prayers and why one should pray. Various passages of the Scripture helped them to understand the importance of prayer and also the blessings it brings in the lives of people. Many of them experienced God's blessings in a unique way and they also thought about how to obtain happiness in life by trusting in God and trying to discover God's love in everyday life through parents.

## Christmas Celebration

**T**he birth of the Saviour Jesus Christ was celebrated with much joy and enthusiasm by different groups at Auxilium New Chumta. On 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019 boarders had a pre-Christmas gathering in the boarding. They had a short Christmas play, Carol, dance and presented a small gift to superior. The Christmas meal was shared in the boarders' refectory. Sr. Superior appreciated the boarders for the Christmas wishes and in her good night message invited them to be the bearers of peace and joy of Christmas. She reminded the Christian girls to attend either Christmas vigil Mass or 25<sup>th</sup> morning Mass. She also told them to convey the sisters' Christmas prayerful greetings to their parents.

On 20<sup>th</sup> morning at 10.00am the school students brightened the hazy morning by their joy and enthusiasm. The little ones with their colourful dress and Santa's cap and high school with their live colourful crib added beauty in the air. Primary children presented Christmas compliments class wise instead the high school sang carols near their groups'





crib. The students offered various articles to superior to give to the Gesu Ashram. Rev. Sr. Superior thanked the gathering for their generosity and Christmas greetings. She in her message told that Christmas is a time of sharing, Christmas is all about peace, joy and love. At the end she on behalf of the management conveyed Christmas greetings to their parents and assured prayers and best wishes. Rev. Fr. Telephone Toppo the assistant parish priest also conveyed his Christmas blessings to the gathering and their families.

In the afternoon of 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 2.00pm the Oratorians and two coaching centres' students gathered to wish the sisters for Christmas. They performed a short programme in honour of Baby Jesus in all their simplicity Sr. Teresa Xalxo on behalf of all the sisters thanked them for their wishes and invited them to love each other and pray for one another especially during Christmas.

## *Auxilium Thecho (Nepal)*

### **Journeying Together towards the Centenary Year 1922-2022**

On 22 November 2019 in the mission land Nepal, Thecho the sisters along with boarders celebrated the beginning of our preparation for the Centenary year of First Missionaries arrival to India our motherland in 1922. This celebration made us feel, experience and enjoy together with the first Sisters the same sentiments they had when they left their land to arrive in an unknown land where God had prepared after hearing the cry of the youth of India in Tamilnadu. As the 1<sup>st</sup> year theme invites to 'Give Thanks 'and calls us to live our FMA Identity with gratitude we had the Holy Eucharist celebrated by Fr. Nobal SDB in the presence of the 6 sisters representing first missionary sisters. We were really encouraged to rededicate and purify the temple of the Holy Spirit that is our total self for the Lord to live and work in His presence and in His chosen place to spread the Kingdom of God. Celebration of this event made the young people to know about



the missionaries and grow in desire to be one like them. Small seed, today grown and spread in many places is the work of the Lord. So we give thanks and dare to take steps like the First Missionaries to work for young people wherever God calls and with the spirit and charism of our Founders.

## Oratory Day

“Let the Little children come to me, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven” (Mt.19:13).

The above quote from the Gospel reminds us that the children are the most lovable and vulnerable sect of the society. On 12th January 2020 the community of Thecho gave new face to the oratory. Since 2017 -2019 the construction of the new hostel building was on process so we could not conduct the oratory for children of the neighbourhood. There wasn't sufficient space for the children to play. After the completion of the building the oratory was re- opened in September. However, on 12th January we solemnly gave new outlook and celebrated the Oratory Day. There were 20 children present. We welcomed the children with the sound of music. They spent almost one hour in games which they play usually. After that we gathered the children for the short entertainment. Karuna one of the oratories gave a short introduction conveying New Year's greetings and wishes to all Sr. Aquila phawa the animator of the community was

felicitated with action song and dance by the oratory children. Sr. Maria Goretti then organized various games for the children like; fashion show, running race, balloon flying etc. followed by prize distribution by Sr.



Aquila the animator. After games children were led in prayer. At the end of the program the children were given some gifts and delicious refreshments. All of them thanked the Sisters and promised to come every day. Ever since then children are very regular for oratory. Although we do not have large numbers due to floating population and migration but we hope to saw the seed of moral and human values in them through oratory. We hope to continue the activity with much zeal and enthusiasm.

## Children's Day Celebration

Children's Day was celebrated with fun and frolic at Sr.Mary's Convent School, Geyzing on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019, marking the birthday of Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first Prime Minister who was a great lover of children.

The children took a break from the monotony of the usual school days. The programme started at 9.00 A.M. in the school hall where the students assembled for much awaited surprise programme organized and performed by our dear Sisters and Teachers. The event began with a prayer dance invoking God's blessings upon all the children. This was followed by a festal song. The teachers performed a couple of Nepali and Hindi dances, action song, solo songs, instrumental and fantastic puppet dance which were thoroughly enjoyed by the children. The crowd was left cheering and appalauding when they saw their Sisters and Teachers dancing. The show ended amidst cheers and joyous humours. After the cultural events a fete and lots of interesting games were organised for the children. There were many stalls serving mouth watering food items. Besides these all the children were given a samosa each. Last but not the least football match was organized between the Students of Class VI and VII. It was really a memorable day for one and all. The students finally returned home at 2 o'clock with bright smile on their faces.



## Educational Tour

On the 9<sup>th</sup> November 2019 Sr. Clara Rai organised a picnic for the boarders to Kalimpong. There were 43 students in all. With immense joy they boarded in three vehicles. They



started their journey at 6 O'clock in the morning interceding the protection of Mother Mary. Our first stop was at Dello, where they had the joy of seeing paragliding, horse riding and beautiful view of Kanchenjunga. After which they proceeded to Science city where they got to know more about Science and its developments. Some Students got

new views and ideas which is a great help for their studies. After an enriching and enjoyable day they returned to the boarding by 8.30 pm.

## New Epoch in History

On 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019 in the evening the Sisters of Geyzing Community and the boarders gathered together in the chapel for the prayer moment, to mark the arrival of the first Missionary Sisters to India. While the introduction was read the Six Missionaries carried different symbols such as, the statue of Mother Mary, the map of India and the burning lamps towards the Altar. On this beautiful evening, the birth of Salesian Spirit and charism in India was reflected; different sayings of the Six Sisters were recalled. We also recalled the words of Don Bosco and Mother Mazzarello which were the best source to revitalize our charism.



Sisters thanked God for the gift of Six Sisters who paved the way for the fruitful mission to be accomplished in India. They also remembered with grateful heart all the departed Sisters who worked hard to give life to the Salesian charism in Indian land. As the theme reflects “With Mary through the Course of the Century” we ended the prayer moment asking Mother Mary’s guidance in the life of each FMA so as to carry out the charism which was handed down by all the pioneers.

## She Brings God’s Message

The long awaited Provincial visit was realised on the pleasant evening of 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 by the Community of Geyzing. Sr.Rose Ezarath, the Provincial was given a warm welcome by the Sisters. The visitation began with a prayer service, having its theme “Mary walks with us.” Sr.Rose carried the statue of Our Blessed Mother towards the Altar which symbolises the presence of Mary in the life of each one of us. On 20<sup>th</sup> November after the Mass, the Sisters and the Boarders gave warm welcome to their dear Mother Provincial by their melodious song.



The next day on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2019 was a special day for the Marian Family. Sr.Rose spent her time with the school children. It began with an official welcome

by the School Guides accompanying Sr. Rose Ezareth together with Sr. Lucy the animator, to the School hall in a dignified gesture. A joyous welcome was given to her by the students. The day's programme began with the lighting of the lamp. After which the School Head Girl, Phurba Doma Bhutia, gave the welcome address. Students expressed their respect and gratitude towards Mother Provincial by offering khadas, flowers and saplings. This was followed by a very short programme which consists of welcome song by the School Choir, Nepali Dance and Action Song by the student of Kindergarten. Mother Provincial delivered her message to the students through a short story. Also, she said four things which will make them successful



in whatever they do; that is DESIRE, DECIDE, DETERMINATION and DIRECTION. She also added that they are the special gift to the Institute. She urged them to continue in their quest for excellence. The efforts of the students were appreciated by Sr. Provincial.

On the same day Sr. Rose also interacted with the teachers and office staff at 11am. Teachers offered the khadas and gave her a warm welcome. She spoke, "Education is the matter of the heart. We should be God oriented person. We have to be happy with the young people." She also thanked the teachers for the commitment with which they render their service to the Institution.

In the afternoon, she met the Non – teaching Staff. They were eagerly waiting to meet her. They showed their love and gratitude by offering the khadas. She thanked them for the help which they give to our Institute.

On the 22nd November 2019 in the evening boarders had the privilege to meet Mother Provincial. In her honour, they had prepared a short cultural programme. In her good night message, she told them; in order to achieve something they need to have desire and determination.

On 23rd November, thanksgiving Mass was offered for Sr. Rose. During the Eucharistic celebration, we thanked God for the gift of Sr. Rose, as the provincial of INC- Kolkata and for her motherly love, accompaniment, concern for each Sister, and benevolent stay.

## Staff Picnic

On 16<sup>th</sup> November 2019 the teachers of St.Mary's Convent School Geyzing went to Triwani for a day out and to enjoy the company of each other. All were left mesmerized by the foliage of the place. The picnic spot was at the bank of the river where Tista and Rangeet River meet together and proceed towards their destiny. Wonderful nature to admire with greenery all over. They had the joy of preparing the food .All enjoyed singing and dancing. After which they had the delicious food prepared by them. All returned home with a contented heart and refreshed mind to commence the daily routine once again.



## Teachers' Orientation

“Until and unless we have dedicated and committed teachers who can take teaching as a mission in their lives, we can't have a good educational system. Teachers should be the best minds of the country.” Such a thought provoking quote, by Dr. Radha Krishnan, itself emphasises on the potential of being great minds of the country. Observing the necessity to impart the same St. Mary's Convent School, organised an orientation day for teaching staff on 7th January 2020. With positive note and the support of school Management the day was meticulously scheduled.

Addressing the Resource person with the words of welcome, Sr. Lucy Kachira the principal of the school summarised the entire programme of the day. Invoking the presence of God, the day got initiated with much enthusiasm and zeal. T Resource person Rev. Fr. V.C Jose S.D.B. Vice Principal and Administrator of Don Bosco School, Malbassey – Sikkim, initiated the sessions with practical and innovative strategies. Looking at the current demands to create and recreate a good and honest citizen, he deliberately, maximised the need of a 'being' who can really take up the challenge to fulfil the demand. Excerpting some of the living issues such as;

The Role of Teachers in Shaping Today's Students, Professional ethics for teachers, and being an influential mentor were the key topics of the sessions. Highlighting on the all-round development of a child, various eye opening activities cum interactive sessions indeed made the day productive. Incorporating present critical situations on education and educator numerous instances were merged and discussed with the Salesian way of teaching. Different perspectives based on teaching got evaluated so as to make the concepts clear. During the sessions, integrated ice breaking and brainstorming activities certainly enhanced the standard of the day. One could observe many opinions brought forth by the group. "Education of the heart is the heart of education" really meant to channelize, modify, mould and form the individuals to be the good and honest citizen of the country.

After a cheesy snacks break at 12:30 p.m. the resource person further, took us to another phase of the session. Talking about the need to create honest citizens and the role of professional teachers. Sessions were simplified with many living examples of the time. Demand in present scenario seems to be high – a teacher is not just a teacher. He/She should be ready to take up any role, in order to meet the demand. In all the aspects of Physical, Spiritual, Psychological, and emotional, each student with the assistance of a role model, should be able to think 'HOW' to face the challenges.

"I thoroughly enjoyed the day, it was very inspiring and innovative session. I had never heard or attended such sessions. Very informative." says Mr. Nikesh Chhetri (one of the teachers) while asking feedbacks. With all the discussions and constructive steps to implement in one's actions, the day came to an end with vote of thanks by Mr. Richard Lepcha.



## **Gratitude and Teachers' Day Celebration**

**O**n 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2019 at St. Anthony's Convent School Jaigaon Gratitude day and Teachers' day were held. The main purpose of the ceremony was to show gratitude to the sisters and teachers by their versatile acts. The celebration was inaugurated by Sr. Rose Kureekkattu, the animator, Sr. Margaret, the principal of the school along with other sisters. The stage was engulfed with cherry tree, flowers and photographs of teachers. At the entrance all the teachers and sisters were welcomed with badges and greeting cards. The programme began with a prayer service followed by prayer dance and other performances. The ceremony concluded with a comic performed by the master of ceremony. It was a pleasure to see the students imbued in their performance.

## **Seminar on Career Guidance**

**O**n 23<sup>rd</sup> of November 2019 the class XII students of St. Anthony 's Convent School left at 6:30 AM for an outing cum career guidance seminar to Siliguri by three Bhutan transport buses accompanied by Sr. Margreat F. Sir Dawa, Sir Deepak, Mam Sabita, Mam Karma, Sir Suraj and Mam Saroj. The students were full of hype and were singing throughout the way. The seminar was held at an institute called "Inspiria".

Students reached Inspiria institute at 11:10 AM and then the Career guidance seminar began with a short introduction about the institute by the Manager. It was followed by the glimpse of Management courses on hotel, hospital, tourism etc. The career seminar concluded with photo session. Then the students and teachers headed to the Science City and then to City Centre where they had their recreational time of 2 hours. At 4:30 PM Students headed towards jaigaon. Overall feedback from the students was that they had stupendous and finesse experience.





## Children's Day

The day which every kid of St. Anthony's Convent School eagerly wait, not just to celebrate but to enjoy themselves by activity participating in the events and the fete stalls that are installed in the campus on this day. It was a day filled with pomp and joy and immense excitement among the young ones of our school.

On November 13 and 14 St. Anthony's School celebrated Children's Day. Children had a short celebration with their class teacher in their respective classes. The teachers had organised a short program. It consisted of- a prayer service, welcome song, a nepali dance and a comedy skit. It was a short yet sweet program. Every student enjoyed themselves by playing various games and visiting and tasting the various food stalls like- Panipuri, Jhalmuri, luckydraw, ice-creams, muri & chana, and taipo (momo). Around 12:00 noon it was time for them to head back home after a day filled with lots of joy and excitement. A big applause and hearty thanks to the children of class XII for skilfully managing the smooth running of the stalls.



## Farewell of Mrs. Philo

On 9th November 2019, the school bid farewell to Mrs. Philo Kujur who retired after her long dedicated service of 29 years at St. Anthony's School Jaigaon. She has been an amazing, dutiful, creative, determined teacher and a great colleague. She has been an inspiration to the students as well as to teachers. We are blessed to have a teacher like her. A short programme was staged to honour her. Sr. Superior and Sr. Principal expressed their deep love and gratitude to her for her selfless, dedicated service towards the institution. At last she was presented gifts by the teachers and students as a token of love and everybody wished her sound health and a long life.

**“A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination, and instill a love of learning.”**  
[Brad Henry]



## Centenary Celebration

On 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019, St. Anthony's Convent School as well as the boarding children had an inaugural programme for the triduum preparation of the centenary celebration of the arrival of the first six missionary sisters to India. The programme commenced with a short prayer service followed by intercessory prayers. The lives of the sisters were read out in brief and quiz competition was held about the lives of the sisters. The arrivals of the sisters were enacted by the boarders.



A group song was performed by the students entitled 'Rejoice on this day'. Sr. Rose Kureekattu, the superior spoke about the origin of the congregation and the meaning of missionary, and why those six sisters came to our country. It was a wonderful experience for the students, teachers and sisters. The programme provided us with best of knowledge of the six sisters as well as the Salesian sisters.

## Solidarity Days

Joy of giving day was celebrated in St. Anthony's Convent School, Jaigaon on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019. Three hundred and fifty Children had sports day and Christmas programme staged by students of the school. They received gifts packets of a coffee mug, pair of socks, soap, tooth paste, cakes and sweets beside the old clothes. 350 family members present were also given tea and cakes. They received a gift of two plates and two spoons each. The celebration was conducted by class XII students with their respective class teachers. Class IV who had highest collection in their dumb box distributed the gifts.

On the following day, the programme was organized for the needy people of Toorsha tea garden. Since their tea garden work stopped without any payment, the old, and the widows were in need of some help. Around 300 people were invited. They received two kilos of dal, potatoes, muri and oil. All of them were served hot tea, cake and biscuits. These items were bought with the small contribution received from parents, staff and the sisters.



## Tribute to Laura Vicuna

Suffer silently and smile always was the day's slogan in St. Anthony's Convent School, Jaigaon as the Yellow house celebrated their patron saint's feast on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020. Life sketch of Bl. Laura Vicuna was read out. The students put forward some intentions pleading God the Almighty to bless our world through the intercession Bl. Laura Vicuna. Quiz competition was held followed by a beautiful song composed in honour of Bl. Laura. Sr. Margaret Fernandez, the principal also asked few questions and the students were very much alert to answer to the questions. Those who answered were rewarded with the toffees. It was a very heart touching lesson for all of us as we recalled to our minds the sacrifice of little girl Laura for the salvation of her mother.



## *Auxilium Kuresong*

## Community Outing

On 9<sup>th</sup> November 2019 the community of Kurseong had the community outing to the banks of "Dude" a beautiful river. All refreshed themselves and enjoyed to the full especially our boards by playing in the water. There were some animated games for the boarders and the winners were given prizes. We also spent some time catching fish and crab though they were too small and relived the childhood memories of the past. The lunch was well prepared by our sisters. Soon after lunch we climbed up to Rohini, there we spend some time and played some games. Prizes were distributed by Sr. Dorothy Torcato the animator of the community. The day was a very memorable one and we concluded the day thanking Mary by praying the Rosary fervently.



## Inauguration of the Centennial Celebration of the FMA Presence in India

On 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019 the community of Kurseong inaugurated the Centenary celebration of the Arrivals of the First FMA's to India. The Prayer service began at 6.00 p.m in the Chapel. Sr. Torcato Dorothy the Animator of the community lit the lamp as a symbol of the inauguration in preparation for the centennial year. Prayer service was animated by Sr. Xess Kiran Asha and Sr. Nayak Ranita. The prayer service was preceded with the Rosary, during Rosary the Word of God and the Indian map were placed on the altar. The life sketch of the pioneer Sisters were read. The prayer service was concluded with a thanksgiving prayer said by Sr. Dorothy.



## LEFT FOR HEAVEN



**Sr. Alice Olickal**  
**Born : 01-08-1939**  
**Demise: 30.11. 2019**

“If we died with Him, we will also live with Him; if we endure, we will also reign with Him” ( 2 Timothy 2:11)

These words of St. Paul are well applicable to our dear Sr. Alice Olickal whom the Lord found ready for His kingdom. She has endured her long suffering with love and resignation for the past six years. She was suffering from acute osteoporosis and has been debilitated in her movements from January 2014 and under treatment. From time to time she was to be hospitalized due to various reasons such as breathlessness and minor strokes. Even in the house often she had to be under oxygen to help herself in normal breathing. From the year 2018 she was completely paralyzed and from May 2019 she also lost her speech. Even then she loved to give

a blessing or to make a sign of the cross on whoever approached her. Her bed of suffering has been a blessing to the community, to the Province and to her near and dear ones as it drew many graces and favours from the Lord. Though she could not participate directly in the apostolate of the community she interested herself in the activities of the house and supported the mission of the community and the sisters with her prayers and offerings especially with the power of the Rosary which constantly rolled between her fingers. Her suffering was certainly a reminder for those of us who lived with her the passion of Christ and her participation in His suffering and death for the redemption of the world. We are certain that Our Lady whom she loved much welcomed her on a Saturday, a day dedicated to her. She breathed her last peacefully on 30 November 2019 at 9.45 am

Alice who was fondly called 'Elikutty' was born on 01 August 1939 in Mutholapuram, Kerala. Her father Ouseph Abraham and mother Rosa brought up their children in true Christian faith. They were four brothers, five sisters and two step brothers. Alice was the seventh daughter. She studied in St. Paul's Girls High School, Mutholapuram run by adoration sisters. In the school she was diligent and respectful and seldom went to class without doing her homework. She was active and inquisitive, studious and ambitious, orderly and sensitive, conscious and responsible, happy to do the work within the expected time. As a child she was very much attached to her father and whenever she noticed he was doing some work in the garden she quietly made her way to his side and enjoyed his company. Besides her studies she frequented a Catholic club where she learnt tailoring and also taught Catechism to the small children in the parish.

During her high school studies she was inspired to become a missionary. She herself narrated the story of her vocation in the following words: "My Assistant Parish Priest was the motivating guide behind my vocation. He used to talk to us in the school every Friday about the missionaries and the great work they were doing for the spread of the Gospel. He also made us to act out the lives of the missionaries. This was an inspiration for me to become a missionary. I used to dream even in my childhood to go to the mission and speak about Jesus. So together with my two other companions, I left my home to become a missionary in Assam. At first my father was not in favour of sending me to far away in Assam. But after many trials he allowed me to leave home".

She entered the Institute of the daughters of Mary Help of Christians in the year 1960 along with her two companions Sr. Anna Varkey FMA and Sr. Rose Simon FMA to join the Aspirantate in Guwahati, Assam. After her Teachers Training Certificate Course she became a postulant on 31 January 1962 and entered the novitiate in Nongthymmai, Shillong on 05 August of the same year. After her profession in 1964 she was sent to pursue her B.Sc studies in Auxilium College, Katpadi, Chennai and completed her B.Ed in the year 1978.

She carried out her various responsibilities in the houses of Tangla, Tezpur, Maligaon, Nongthymmai, Bandel, R.K. Puram, Dum Dum, New Chumta, Monsada, Kurseong, Park Circus and Nepal as Assistant of the boarders, headmistress, teacher, bursar, vicar and Animator. From 1987 – 1988 she was in casa generalazia, Rome as a helper in the house. Wherever she was she gave herself totally at the service of the

community and its mission.

As a pioneer in the foundation of Auxilium, Kurseong in 1995 she supervised the construction works with precision, diligence, great commitment and sacrifice adapting herself to the extreme cold climate of the place. The sisters who lived with her testify that she had great respect especially for the superiors, priests, elderly and the sick. Prayer and work were her characteristics. She was hardworking, upright, foreseeing and punctual for community moments and the fulfillment of her religious duties. She carried out her duties as bursar and animator of communities with great dedication, diligence and love for the congregation.



Sr. Alice was an efficient teacher and the students appreciated her approach with gratitude. One of the students attests: “Sr. Alice, you were our most loved teacher in St. Mary’s Maligaon. It’s for your guidance in our growing years that we have shaped our lives for the better. On behalf of all my classmates and friends I thank you”. When she celebrated the golden jubilee of her profession in 2014 she was asked what thought comforted her during her illness she answered: “The thought of living with and for Jesus and Mary in the Congregation gives me comfort. Another comforting thought that comes to me is that I was well taken care by all the superiors and sisters in whichever communities I belonged to. Now I praise and thank God with all my heart for the great love and care showered upon me by the community here at Dum Dum and all the prayers offered for me by many people especially the sisters of all the communities. This consoles me and gives me hope to live with optimism and joy”. True to the testimony of Sr. Alice we can boldly affirm that she was a committed religious ever appreciative and grateful for any favours accorded to her.

Before I conclude, I wish to place on record Sr. Teresa Adampakallel and the community of Dum Dum for having taken good care of our dear Sr. Alice during her time of long illness and for their constant vigilance and concern. Sr. Alice was made to feel part and parcel of the community by offering all possible assistance to participate in liturgical and community moments of prayer, meal and recreation. A word of sincere thanks to Sr. Luciana Rai, the nurse for her dedicated service done with sisterly love and sacrifice. A special note of gratitude to Mrs. Archana Shil who looked after Sr. Alice with motherly care and concern all through her illness.

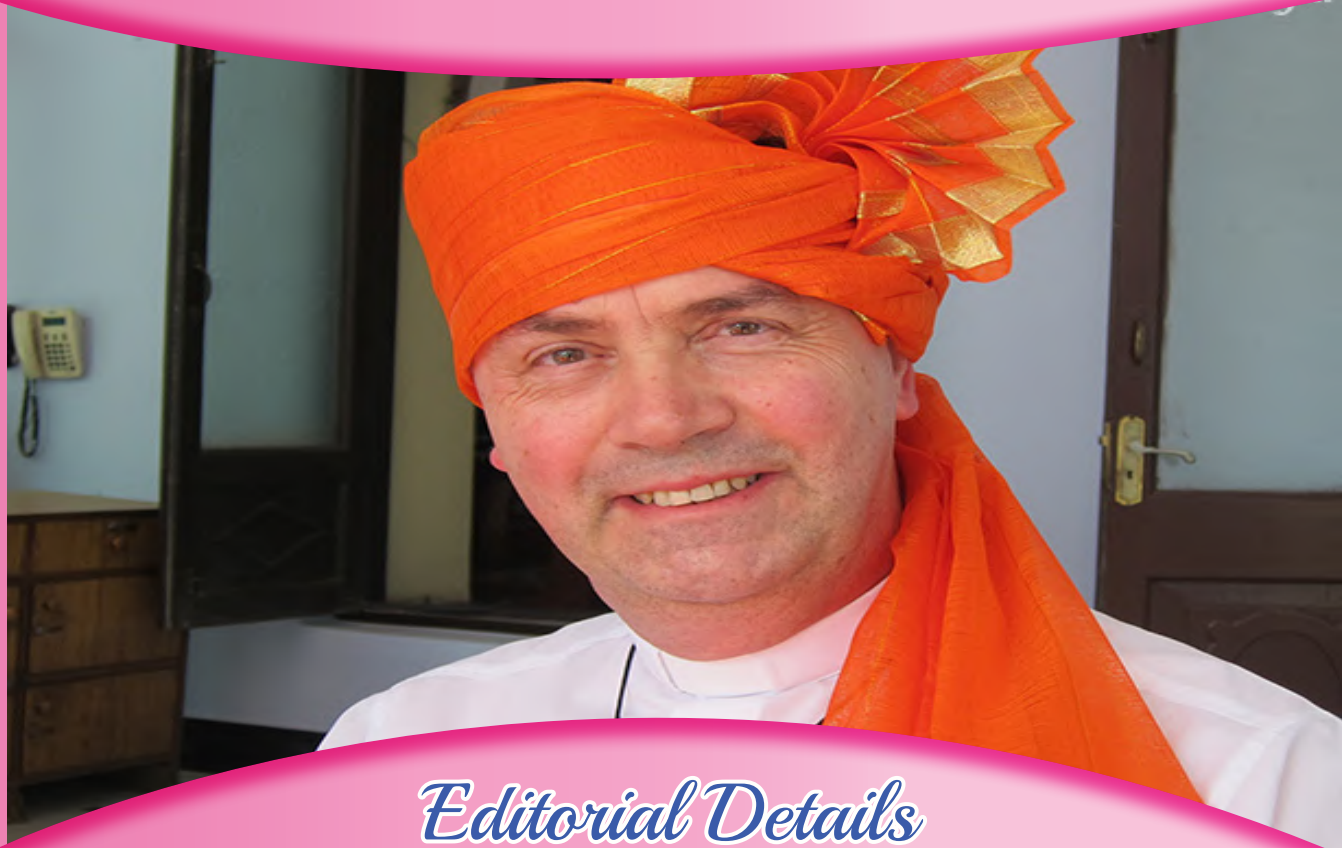
We are indebted to our Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Hermil D’ Souza who was ever available to administer the sacraments to Sr. Alice particularly the anointing of the sick through which she was revived several times when she took severe turns in her physical condition. We are grateful to Rev. Fr. Yesu Das and all other priests who have reached out to her with sacraments. I wish to thank the parents of Sr. Alice who have offered her to the Institute and to all her brothers and sisters who visited her several times bringing joy and comfort to their loved one. I thank her brothers Mr. Jose and Mr. Mathew and her sister Mrs. Achamma for having come from Kerala to accompany her on her final journey. Thank you dear Sr. Alice for the 80 years of your fruitful life on earth and the 55 years of your Salesian religious life which left an imprint of God loves goodness.

# R.I.P Sr. Alice Olickal



# Congratulations

## Fr. Angel Fernandez Arttime Sdb Rector Major



### *Editorial Details*

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**Associate Editor:** Sr. Rosy Veliyan

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**Newsletter:** [fmakolnewscast@gmail.com](mailto:fmakolnewscast@gmail.com)